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STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 76, No. 208 ©SS 2018

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2018

平成30年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

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Awash in corruption



The USS Blue Ridge, flagship of the 7th Fleet, is seen in Jakarta, Indonesia, in April 2010.

Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Temporary funding bill could avoid shutdown

By CLAUDIA GRISALES
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers on both sides of a bitter partisan aisle on Capitol Hill haven't ruled out a temporary funding bill to head off a crucial deadline Thursday.

The talks could signal that Congress is headed for a new stopgap budget plan rather than a repeat of last month's government shutdown.

Some say a vote will need to be in the works by Tuesday with Republicans gone much of last week for a party retreat and their Democratic counterparts headed to theirs Wednesday.

"The fact that the Hill has been basically out of session since Tuesday does not bode well for avoiding a shutdown," warned Lauren Fish, a defense strategies research associate at the Center for a New American Security, a Washington think tank. However, "Democrats are heading out of town Wednesday... After ceding defeat on the last shutdown, it won't be good optically if they shut the government down and then get out of Dodge."

The military, along with the rest of the government, is operating on its fourth short-term funding bill since the 2018 fiscal year started Oct. 1. It's become common practice for Congress to rely on the continuing resolutions, or CRs, until a full budget is approved.

Several are betting against a Feb. 8 shutdown, especially if House Republican fiscal hawks and Senate Democrats are on board with a funding deal.

SEE FUNDING ON PAGE 10

How 'Fat Leonard' infiltrated Navy's floating Asian headquarters

By CRAIG WHITLOCK
The Washington Post

As the flagship for the Navy's 7th Fleet, the USS Blue Ridge plays a critical role in national security by overseeing all U.S. maritime operations in Asia and the western Pacific. The venerable warship is the Navy's second-oldest active-duty vessel and has survived the Vietnam War, the Cold War and tensions with China and North Korea.

But there is one foreign threat against which the Blue Ridge proved utterly defenseless for many years: a 6-foot-3, 350-pound tugboat owner known as "Fat Leonard."

In a case that ranks as the worst corruption scandal in Navy history, the Justice Department has charged 15 officers and one enlisted sailor who served on the Blue Ridge with taking bribes from or lying about their ties to Leonard Glenn Francis, a Singapore-based tycoon who held lucrative contracts to service Navy ships and submarines in Asian ports.



Leonard Glenn Francis, a.k.a. Fat Leonard.

PHOTO OBTAINED BY THE WASHINGTON POST

In the worst corruption scandal in Navy history, the Justice Department has charged 15 officers and one enlisted sailor with taking bribes from or lying about their ties to "Fat Leonard."

For the better part of a decade, as part of a massive scam to defraud the Navy, Francis systematically infiltrated the Blue Ridge to a degree that is only now coming into focus, more than four years after the defense contractor's arrest, according to the documents from federal court and the Navy, as well as

SEE AWASH ON PAGE 5

Inside:

Government to borrow nearly \$1 trillion this year, an 84 percent increase over 2017

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MILITARY

Will new nuke strategy deter or hasten war?

By DAVID S. CLOUD

Trubine Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration outlined sweeping changes in U.S. nuclear strategy Friday, calling for two new types of nuclear weapons and warning for the first time that in "extreme circumstances" the U.S. could use nuclear weapons in response to non-nuclear attacks on infrastructure and civilians.

The strategy, described in a 75-page review released by the Pentagon, constitutes one of the most significant revisions of U.S. nuclear strategy since the Cold War, one aimed at aggressively countering nuclear-armed Russia and North Korea as well as terrorist groups seeking to acquire nuclear arms.

By clarifying potential scenarios when the president might authorize a nuclear attack, officials said, the U.S. was seeking to deter adversaries from conducting large-scale cyberwarfare and other non-nuclear but potentially devastating attacks on the U.S. and its allies, a controversial idea that critics said could make nuclear war more likely.

"We must look reality in the eye and see the world as it is, not as we wish it to be," Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said in a statement accompanying the report. "Given the range of potential adversaries, their capabilities and strategic objectives, this review calls for a flexible, tailored nuclear deterrent strategy."

"In no way does this approach lower the nuclear threshold," Mattis wrote. "Rather, by convincing adversaries that even limited use of nuclear weapons can be more costly than they can tolerate, it in-

fact raises that threshold."

But Joseph Cirincione, a nonproliferation expert at the Ploughshares Fund, a Washington-based advocacy group that seeks reductions in the nuclear arsenal, said the new strategy — combined with President Donald Trump's volatile approach to international threats — could lower the threshold for employing nuclear weapons.

"This strategy gives him a massive rebuild of the current Cold War arsenal, complete with new missions and new weapons, to include responding to a cyberattack with a nuclear bomb," Cirincione said. "This plan, coupled with this president, greatly increases the risk of nuclear war."

The Obama administration sought to shrink the role of nuclear weapons in U.S. defense strategy. It declared in 2010 that it would consider using nuclear weapons only in extreme circumstances, such as a massive conventional attack by a nuclear-armed state or in the event of a mass-casualty chemical or biological attack.

Trump's strategy likewise calls for using nuclear weapons only "in extreme circumstances to defend the vital interests of the United States, its allies and partners."

But it specifies that extreme circumstances also could include "non-nuclear strategic attacks" including those on the "U.S. allied or partner civilian population or infrastructure," as well as "on U.S. or allied nuclear forces, their command and control, or warning and attack assessment capabilities."

Jon B. Wolfsthal, director of the Nuclear Crisis Group and a National Security Council official in the Obama administration, said the new strategy opened the door

to first use of nuclear weapons by the U.S. in more scenarios than before.

"The U.S. is expanding the circumstances under which it might

'Some will say any additional capacity, no matter how measured, increases the chances of using one of these weapons. On the contrary, it is the exact opposite.'

Deputy Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan

use nuclear weapons first, even against non-nuclear states," he said.

The review recommends modifying "a small number" of existing nuclear warheads on Trident missiles carried on U.S. submarines to reduce the weapons' explosive power. In addition, a new nuclear-armed cruise missile launched from naval vessels would be developed, a process

likely to take years.

Both steps, the report says, are aimed at deterring "regional aggression," including a decision by Russia, North Korea or other adversaries to carry out a limited nuclear strike in the belief that the U.S. would not respond because

it did not want to risk large-scale nuclear war.

Current and former Pentagon officials said that Russian military doctrine increasingly envisions using a limited nuclear strike to win a conflict in Europe, believing the U.S. and its allies might not want to risk large-scale nuclear war under those circumstances.

"We need to figure out how to deter a Russia military, which evidently believes it can use nuclear weapons to end and win a conventional conflict," said Franklin Miller, a National Security Council official during President George W. Bush's administration.

The lower-yield warhead for Trident missiles would "ensure a prompt response option" and would help counter any "mistaken perception" by Russia, North Korea or other adversaries that the U.S. might hesitate to respond with nuclear weapons to a limited nuclear strike by one of them, the report said.

Critics say the U.S. arsenal, which includes hundreds of lower-yield nuclear warheads, is adequate to deter any adversary.

"It lowers the threshold for using nuclear weapons, a particularly frightening proposition given this president's support for a nuclear arms race," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif. "Previous administrations, both Republican and Democrat, have worked to reduce the threat of nuclear weapons, and this review breaks sharply from that bipartisan tradition."

During the Cold War, the Pentagon had sea-launched cruise missiles, which are more difficult for an adversary to detect because they fly at low altitudes. That weapon was retired by the Obama

administration in 2011.

"Some will say any additional capacity, no matter how measured, increases the chances of using one of these weapons," Deputy Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said Friday at a Pentagon news conference. "On the contrary, it is the exact opposite."

The plan, the first review of the U.S. nuclear strategy since 2010, reaffirms many long-standing tenets of U.S. nuclear weapons strategy. That includes a promise made by the Obama administration to overhaul the nuclear arsenal by spending more than \$1 trillion over the next two decades on new or modernized intercontinental ballistic missiles, bombers, submarine and warheads.

It also maintains the option for the U.S. to use nuclear weapons in a first strike, while not clarifying the exact conditions under which the president might do so. The Cold War-era policy was aimed at deterring Moscow and other adversaries and reassuring allies in Europe and Asia that the U.S. will come to their defense.

The option to develop the new cruise missiles could be reconsidered, the strategy says, if Russia removes a cruise missile of its own that the U.S. argues it has secretly deployed in violation of an arms control agreement, a claim Moscow denies.

Elisabeth Braw, a London-based nonresident scholar with the Atlantic Council, a foreign policy think tank, said Trump's strategy was likely to reawaken Cold War fears in Europe that it could become a nuclear battleground in a U.S.-Russia conflict. "We thought that had ended," she said. "It feels like that specter is coming back."

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MILITARY

Fallout continues from fatal Navy collisions

By TYLER HLAVAC
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Fallout from two Navy ship collisions that killed 17 sailors last year continues, with four more sailors being punished for their roles in the accidents.

Adm. Frank Caldwell — tapped in October to oversee disciplinary actions for the USS Fitzgerald and USS John S. McCain collisions last year — recently held 35 nonjudicial punishment hearings for sailors from both ships in Yokosuka, Japan, according to a Navy statement obtained by Stars and Stripes on Friday.

On June 17, seven sailors died after the Fitzgerald crashed into a civilian merchant ship about 60 miles southwest of Yokosuka. The McCain collided with an oil tanker near Singapore on Aug. 21, leaving 10 sailors dead.

The executive officer, command master

chief and one officer, all from the Fitzgerald, were found guilty of dereliction in the performance of duties and received a punitive letter of reprimand, the statement said.

An enlisted sailor from the McCain also was found guilty of dereliction in the performance of duties and also received a punitive letter of reprimand, plus forfeiture of a half-month's pay for two months and a reduction in rank to the next inferior pay grade. The forfeiture of pay and reduction in rank were suspended for six months.

Caldwell dismissed the NJP charges of one officer and another enlisted sailor from the McCain. Article 32 hearings to consider court-martialing Cmdr. Bryce Benson, who commanded the Fitzgerald; Cmdr. Alfredo Sanchez, former commander of the McCain; and three unidentified Fitzgerald officers are scheduled for March 6-8 at the Navy Yard in Washington. They all face negligent homicide charges.

It remains unclear how many more cases

Caldwell's "consolidated disposition authority" is reviewing.

Several sailors have been either fired or forced into retirement since the collisions.

Last year, the Navy relieved the Fitzgerald and McCain commanders, along with the head of 7th Fleet, which oversees operations in the Western Pacific. The leaders of Task Force 70 and Destroyer Squadron 15, which oversee the fleet's destroyers and cruisers, also were relieved of their duties.

Last September, Pacific Fleet Commander Adm. Scott Swift announced he would retire on an unspecified date after being told he would not be the Navy's pick to take over U.S. Pacific Command after Adm. Harry Harris retires this year.

Former Surface Forces head Vice Adm. Thomas Rowden recently retired early in light of unspecified disciplinary actions recommended against him in a probe of the collisions.

The Navy has been under pressure from

lawmakers and the public to provide a full reckoning of the collisions and to mete out punishment for those responsible. Members of the Senate Armed Services Committee grilled Navy officials during a September hearing, with family members of the deceased sailors sitting in the audience.

Last month, Navy Secretary Richard Spencer and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson told lawmakers that work is underway to ensure safer conditions for sailors.

"I am here today as the responsible one and accountable for our most valuable resources," Spencer testified on Jan. 18 before a joint hearing of two House Armed Services Committee subpanels. "To fulfill these responsibilities, I am directing change across the fleet and the Marine Corps to correct the issues identified in our analysis of those intolerable events."

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US military reviewing guidance on wearable tech devices

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

Bright lines on a "Global Heatmap" published online by a popular fitness app show plenty of people working out inside U.S. bases near the Korean Demilitarized Zone.

They're a sharp contrast to the expanse of black on the map to the north. Communists, it seems, don't often wear fitness trackers outside of the North Korean capital, Pyongyang.

Revelations last week that servicemembers' devices "can be tracked and even identified inside secure facilities worldwide have prompted a Pentagon review.

It's simple for anyone to conduct their own analysis of activity at U.S. bases using fitness app maker Strava's online map.

Type in "Ramstein Air Base," home of U.S. Air Forces in Europe near Kaiserslautern, Germany, and you'll get an outline of the installation showing plenty of people running around a flight line used by military planes assigned to the 86th Airlift Wing.

Zoom in on Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, home of America's first forward-deployed F-35B stealth fighters in Japan, and you'll see that quite a few people wearing fitness trackers have been moving around just offshore.

In the Middle East, lines on Strava's map surround airports that served as U.S. military hubs during the occupation of Iraq, suggesting people with fitness trackers are still there.

Glowing squares the size of football fields around Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city that was liberated from Islamic State last year, could mark forward-operating bases where personnel have limited space to work out.

It was reported Wednesday that Defense Secretary Jim Mattis had ordered a review of the use of personal electronic devices — ranging from small fitness trackers to smartphones and tablets — that could lead to a ban on the use of nongovernment cellphones at the Pentagon.

Annual training for all Defense Department personnel recommends limiting public profiles on the internet, including social media accounts, U.S. Forces Japan spokesman Air Force Col. John Hutchesson told Stars and Stripes in an email last week.

"DOD takes matters like these seriously and is reviewing the situation to determine if any additional training or guidance is required, and if any additional policy must be developed to ensure the continued safety of DOD personnel at home and abroad," he said.

The military hasn't issued guidance to servicemembers in Japan about fitness apps, he said.

"We will continue, however, to remind all of our servicemembers of the importance of protecting both their personal data online as well as safeguarding information that could compromise personal and operational security," Hutchesson said.

Unavoidable side effect

Defense officials on the Korean Peninsula are using recent reports about fitness trackers to reinforce proper use of wireless devices on military bases, said Army Col. Chad Carroll, U.S. Forces Korea director of public affairs.

"We all participate in annual training for all DOD personnel that addresses operational security and social media use," he said. "We will take any additional guidance on this issue from the Department of Defense and implement accordingly."

Data from fitness trackers are part of a realm of intelligence and counterintelligence that's growing as wireless devices proliferate, David Johnson, of the Center for Advanced Defense Studies in Washington, said in a Thursday phone interview.

"This is going to be an unavoidable side effect of the internet of things," he said, referring to the spread of wireless technology to everyday items other than computers and smartphones.

For example, adversaries might

use wearable devices to track soldiers on a patrol, Johnson said.

"It is a blue force tracker on everyone that the enemy can read," he said, comparing fitness trackers to a system the Army uses to track its vehicles on the battlefield. "It requires considerable discipline from units to make sure the devices don't go where they're not supposed to go."

In some parts of the world, there's a risk that the enemy might use information from fitness trackers to plan mortar attacks on U.S. facilities at times when they would be most effective, Johnson said.

"The world has changed, and open data is available to more people than you would imagine," he said, noting that it's simple to go online and track the transponders of ships at sea.

Even switching off electronic devices can reveal things to adversaries, said Johnson, noting that the military is struggling with many issues related to new technologies around Washington because people entering them have to turn off their devices.

"We are going to have to be much more aware of our wearable devices and the behavior of people in the signals realm," he said.

The military is struggling with many issues related to new technology and social media that adversaries could use with the help of artificial intelligence to target individual servicemembers, Arizona State University engineering professor Braden Allenby told Stars and Stripes in an email.

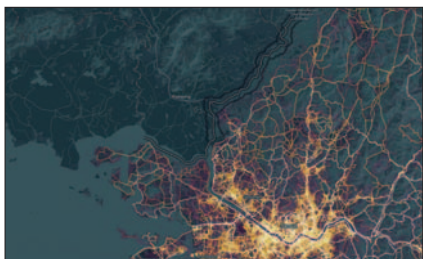
"During the last American election, for example, servicemembers were targeted by political advertisements on social media platforms such as Facebook by the Russians based on their profiles," he said. Allenby said the Defense Department might respond with more restrictions on personal electronics and a review of potential new vulnerabilities, but he added that won't be an easy job in an era where new technology is rapidly emerging in the civilian world.

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Screenshots courtesy of Strava

Strava's "Global Heatmap" shows activity at the Joint Security Area of the Korean Demilitarized Zone.



An expanse of black indicates few North Koreans use fitness trackers, unlike people in the South.

Type "Ramstein Air Base" into Strava's heatmap and you get an outline of the installation in Germany showing plenty of folks running around a flight line used by military planes assigned to the 86th Airlift Wing.



MILITARY



Courtesy photos

Above: Chaps McNealy, a Marine veteran, and his podcasting partner, Captain Cons, an Army veteran, record an episode of their podcast, "Zero Blog Thirty." Left: Art for Thom Tran's podcast is shown. Tran, a medically retired Army noncommissioned officer who was wounded in Iraq, has been podcasting since last year with veterans of the global war on terrorism.

Vets use podcasts to bridge civilian-military divide

By DAN STOUTAMIRE

Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — Thom Tran was only four days into his first deployment when he was shot in the head.

A communications sergeant attached to a special forces unit, Tran was on a patrol near Tallil Air Base in southern Iraq in 2003 when he got hit.

He quickly got back to work after receiving a few staples and a tetanus shot, but complications forced his medical discharge from the Army after he returned from overseas.

The transition to civilian life was a difficult one. Having discovered how helpful it was to discuss his troubles with other veterans, he launched a podcast called "Battle Scars" last year.

Tran is one of a growing number of veterans using podcasts to tell their stories in the hopes of raising awareness of military and veteran issues and to reach a civilian audience that has become injured to news from Afghanistan and Iraq.

Notable guests on Tran's program have included Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., who lost both legs as an Army helicopter pilot in Iraq, and former NFL player and Green Beret Nate Boyer.

"I know exactly how healing talking can be," said Tran, who used standup comedy as a form of therapy to get himself out of his post-Army funk.

"What 'Battle Scars' does is it takes a soldier or veteran, puts them in front of another combat-wounded soldier who knows exactly what they're talking about, exactly how they feel, what it's like to wear that uniform," he said. "That frees them up to talk."

Other major military-themed podcasts are regularly atop the iTunes charts in the Government and Organizations category, including "Mentors for Military," a collaborative effort among several Army veterans; SOFREP Radio, which bills itself as providing "special operations military news and straight talk with the guys"; and "Zero Blog Thirty," which host Chaps McNealy sees as a kind of "virtual VFW hall" for listeners.

McNealy, like Tran, was medically discharged after being shot in Iraq, where he was serving as a dog handler for the Marine Corps. His co-host, who goes by the pseudonym Captain Cons, was an Army artillery officer who attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

While Tran's discussions are

focused more on single veterans and their personal stories, "Zero Blog Thirty" is more free-form, with McNealy, Cons and others speaking on politics, veteran issues in the news, and some times just things they find interesting that have nothing whatsoever to do with military culture.



'I know exactly how healing talking can be.'

Thom Tran
Iraq War veteran

Sometimes, the conversations do take a more serious turn. Around the holidays, the podcast took on veteran homelessness, which McNealy said is a major issue in his current home of San Antonio.

"(For that show) I looked for somebody who speaks out on that or organizations that can help and donate money and do what we can," he said. "An important

part of being a lifelong Marine or a lifelong veteran is taking advantage of the platform you have and helping others."

Tran and McNealy both say they're trying to help bridge the gap in understanding between their civilian and servicemember listeners.

"I want civilians who listen to the show to say, 'Wow! They're not all knuckle-dragging grunts, not all the stereotypical Hollywood airborne Rangers,'" Tran said. "We are so much more."

With the war in Afghanistan entering its 17th year, McNealy said, it's understandable that many Americans have tuned out the conflict, given the quicker news cycle and a raft of domestic stories monopolizing attention.

"I do feel like that it's oftentimes forgotten, but that's a natural progression for something that's been going on for more than 15 years at this point," he said. "It's incredibly hard to keep anything in the public consciousness with a 24-hour news cycle. How many ways can you say 'servicemembers getting their limbs blown off by an IED (improvised explosive device)' and keep it fresh?"

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Soldier guilty of assault on police

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — A 173rd Airborne Brigade soldier who assaulted two Italian police officers, breaking one officer's teeth, was given a suspended one-year jail sentence just hours after he was arrested.

The soldier, identified by Italian media as Keshawn T. Ross, 21, was released to the brigade after he pleaded guilty Thursday and was sentenced in the Vicenza court.

Brigade officials confirmed the soldier's sentence and status but declined to provide

'The soldier seemed possessed. Not even the pepper spray could stop him.'

il Giornale di Vicenza
newspaper

leadership or its soldiers," Lt. Col. John Hall, a brigade spokesman said in an email. "The 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team strives to be an organization whose members are respectful of the Vicenza community."

According to local media, Ross was at a local strip club early Thursday morning when he "totally flipped out," according to *Il Giornale di Vicenza*. Strip club security called police, hoping that Ross would calm down when he saw the police vehicle's flashing lights, the *Giornale* reported.

"Instead, all hell broke loose. As soon as Ross saw one of the policemen exiting the vehicle, he assaulted him and punched him in the face, breaking one of his teeth."

"The soldier seemed possessed," the newspaper continued. "Not even the pepper spray could stop him. Only after a hand-to-hand fight, the policemen succeeded in handcuffing him and putting him in their vehicle. But not even the vehicle escaped the soldier's violence. He was kicked and whacked it," the *Giornale* said.

Ross, represented by a local lawyer, pleaded guilty later Thursday morning to injury, insult and resistance to public officials. He was sentenced to a year in jail, which the judge suspended on condition that Ross commit no further crimes.

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Warren Buffett on hand as new Navy ship commissioned

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The U.S. Navy on Saturday commissioned its newest warship, the USS Omaha, a futuristic, \$440 million vessel named for the Omaha hometown of billionaire Warren Buffett, who was on hand for the ceremony.

The Omaha, a 218-foot-long littoral combat ship, was commissioned at its new homeport in San Diego.

Buffett's daughter, Susie Buffett, who was designated as the ship's sponsor, gave the traditional order for officers and crew: "Man

our ship and bring her to life."

"Aye, aye, ma'am," they replied and ran to the ship as a band struck up "Anchors Aweigh."

The aluminum-clad Omaha is designed for missions close to shore. It has high-tech computer capabilities and can be reconfigured for various missions, including anti-submarine warfare and anti-mine operations.

"She is a beautiful ship," said Cmdr. Michael Toth, the commanding officer. "To be at her helm is more akin to flying an aircraft with a pilot and a co-

pilot than to conning a traditional warship."

Other dignitaries at the ceremony included Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts, Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert and former Nebraska governor and U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey, a Navy veteran and Medal of Honor recipient.

"I am proud to share our name, our heritage and our community values with USS Omaha and its commander, and we wish you safety on your missions," Stothert said.

Ricketts, whose state is land-

locked, issued what he said was a unique honor in designating the entire crew collectively as "an admiral in the great Navy of the state of Nebraska."

The ship is the fourth to carry the Omaha name since 1869. The last vessel was an attack submarine that was decommissioned in 1995.

"She represents the strength and the fortitude of her city and her state," U.S. Navy Secretary Richard V. Spencer said at the ceremony. "This ship is ready to deliver the fight tonight."

MILITARY

Awash: Ship was Francis' primary target

FROM FRONT PAGE

interviews with Navy officials and associates of Francis.

Prosecutors say nine sailors from the 7th Fleet flagship leaked classified information about ship movements and other secrets to Francis, a Malaysian citizen, making the Blue Ridge perhaps the most widely compromised U.S. military headquarters of the modern era.

The Navy is investigating dozens of others who served on the ship, which is based in Japan, for possible violations of military law or ethics rules, according to documents and interviews.

Between 2006 and 2013, Francis doled out illicit gifts, hosted epicurean feasts and sponsored sex parties for Blue Ridge personnel on at least 45 occasions, according to federal court records and Navy documents obtained by The Washington Post under the Freedom of Information Act.

Officers from the Blue Ridge consumed or pocketed about \$1 million in gourmet meals, liquor, cash, vacations, airline tickets, tailored suits, Cuban cigars, luxury watches, cases of beef, designer handbags, antique furniture and concert tickets — and reveled in the attention of an armada of prostitutes, records show.

Although Francis offered bribes and freebies to hundreds of Navy personnel assigned to other U.S. warships, bases and embassies in Asia starting in the early 1990s, the Blue Ridge was his primary target.

Staff officers on the Blue Ridge had the clout to intervene on behalf of Francis' company, Glenn Defense Marine Asia, because they managed operations, logistics and intelligence for the entire 7th Fleet. Of paramount importance to Francis was the officers' access to the classified itineraries of all U.S. ships and submarines transiting the region.

A master recruiter, Francis methodically assembled a network of informants to feed him the secret itineraries, court documents show. Wielding remarkable influence for a foreigner, he then prodded his moles on the Blue Ridge to reroute aircraft carriers and other vessels to ports controlled by his firm so he could more easily overcharge the Navy for fuel, other supplies and services.

Francis, 53, has pleaded guilty to bribery and defrauding the military of \$35 million, although some officials think the monetary losses sustained by the Navy are far greater. He has been in jail in San Diego since his arrest in 2013 and is cooperating with authorities as he awaits sentencing. One of his associates, Ethan Posner, declined to comment.

The case has snowballed into an epic embarrassment for the Navy, which has struggled to explain how so many officers on the Blue Ridge succumbed so easily to the prostitutes, extravagant meals and expensive gifts that Francis dangled as temptations.



KIRK JOHNSON/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge returns to Pier 9 at U.S. Navy Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, last month after an extended dry-dock period. Prosecutors say nine sailors from the ship leaked classified information to Leonard Glenn Francis.

It also has raised questions about the extent to which admirals in the 7th Fleet and the rest of the Navy knew about what was happening under their command but did not intervene.

More than 60 admirals have come under investigation by the Justice Department and the Navy for their interactions with Francis and his company. Two admirals have been charged in federal court and six others have been censured or disciplined by the Navy. Authorities have publicly identified only a handful of the others so far.

Cmdr. Mike Kafka, a Navy spokesman, said the service takes the ongoing criminal investigation "very seriously" and that it is working closely with the Justice Department to hold Navy personnel accountable.

"The criminal activity of Leonard Francis has changed how we conduct our ... contracting services worldwide," Kafka said in an email. "It is evident that Leonard Francis specifically targeted personnel from the USS Blue Ridge, the flag ship for the Seventh Fleet, due to that staff's ability to impact other ship schedules and port visit locations."

About the Blue Ridge

The Navy advertises the 634-foot-long Blue Ridge, named after a range in the Appalachian Mountains, as the most capable command ship ever built. It was commissioned in 1970.

60

The approximate number of admirals who have come under investigation by the Justice Department and the Navy for their interactions with Leonard Francis and his company.

Among the Navy's active-duty vessels, only the wooden-hulled USS Constitution, which was launched in 1797 and is preserved as a museum, is older.

The Blue Ridge boasts little firepower. But as the floating headquarters for the 7th

Fleet, it is packed with advanced communications gear so it can track and command the fleet's formidable assets: about 60 warships and submarines, manned by a combined 20,000 sailors, performing missions in the Pacific and Indian oceans.

The 7th Fleet is led by a three-star admiral supported by a command staff of about 200 personnel assigned to the Blue Ridge. The ship itself is skippered by a captain with a separate crew. It spends about half the year docked at its homeport in Yokosuka, Japan, and the rest making the rounds in Asia.

For years, when it arrived in a port, the Blue Ridge would be welcomed by a familiar sight on the pier: a beaming Leonard Francis, flanked by a black sport-utility vehicle or limousine and an entourage of

comely young women. His company, Glenn Defense, held Navy contracts to provide everything the crew might need while in port, including fuel, food, fresh water, tugboats, security guards and ground transportation. But Francis, also known within Navy circles as "Leonard the Legend," was renowned for the perks that he provided off the books.

Besides paying for meals at Asia's fanciest restaurants, he was famed within the Navy for the prostitutes and strippers he had on call from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam.

Organizing the sex workers into what he dubbed "elite SEAL teams," he would fly them from their countries to whatever port the Blue Ridge might be visiting.

Blue Ridge officers were repeatedly instructed that none of this was permissible. The Navy, like other federal agencies, has strict rules against accepting anything of monetary value from people seeking to do business with the government.

Gifts are prohibited unless they are worth \$20 or less. There is also a \$50 annual limit on accepting gifts from a single source.

Yet officers on the Blue Ridge routinely conspired with Francis to undermine the regulations, according to federal prosecutors.

SEE NEXT PAGE

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MILITARY

FROM PAGE 5

In February 2006, as the Blue Ridge prepared to visit Hong Kong, a military lawyer sent an ethics alert to senior officers on the ship: Beware defense contractors who might try to bribe you.

Instead of complying, Capt. David Newland, the 7th Fleet chief of staff, immediately leaked the message to Francis so that Francis could cover his tracks, according to an indictment filed last year in federal court in San Diego.

Prosecutors said Newland was one in a long line of Blue Ridge officers who had been on the take from the contractor.

The Singapore stop

The next day, the Blue Ridge docked in Hong Kong for a 72-hour visit. Newland and other officers dined and drank at Francis' expense at a swanky French restaurant, racking up a \$20,000 tab. Then they spent the night at the Shangri-La Hotel, where Francis covered much of the cost, the indictment states.

Steve Barney, a retired Navy captain who wrote the 2006 ethics alert when he was serving as the 7th Fleet's top lawyer, said he was shocked by the allegations of his former shipmates flagrantly disregarding the rules.

"There was a continuous drumbeat on ethics," he said. "Anybody who was on the staff, if they took the time to read it, would have been on notice about what the ethics rules were."

Three weeks after Barney posted his ethics warning, the flagship arrived in Singapore for another port visit — and another party.

On March 9, 2006, at least seven officers from the Blue Ridge attended a twilight cocktail hour held by Francis on the helipad atop the 73-story Swissotel the Stamford, one of the tallest hotels in Southeast Asia, according to court documents and photographs of the event obtained by The Post.

Afterward, the group dined in a private room at Jaan, the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant, where they savored foie gras terrine, oxtail soup and duck-leg confit followed by a degustation of baby lamb, according to a copy of the menu from that evening.

For dessert: dark Manjari chocolate gelee with cacao nib foam, poached rhubarb and passion fruit sorbet. The officers drank Hennessy Paradis Extra cognac at \$2,000 a bottle and smoked Cuban Cohiba cigars worth \$2,000 a box, records show.

If there was any doubt about who was paying for it, the menu proclaimed in large type that the hosts for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard G. Francis.

Photographs show Francis being toasted by Newland, the 7th Fleet chief of staff. Also in attendance were Col. Enrico DeGuzman, the Marine Corps liaison to the 7th Fleet, and Lt. Cmdr. Edmond Aruffo, another 7th Fleet staff officer.

Newland and DeGuzman were indicted in March on bribery and conspiracy charges, along with seven other former officers from the Blue Ridge and the 7th Fleet staff. All have pleaded not guilty.

Joseph Mancano, an attorney for Newland, called the allegations against him "simply unproven" and that his client "looks forward to being vindicated at trial." A lawyer for DeGuzman acknowledged that the Marine Corps officer had accepted favors from Francis but denied that he gave anything in return or knew that Glenn Defense was overbidding the Navy.

"While Colonel DeGuzman may have accepted a handful of dinners and hotel rooms paid for by the defense contractor Francis, [his] decisions and actions were never based even in part on these unsolicited gratuities but rather were made based on the best interests of the safety and security of the Marines and sailors under his command," said Birney Bervar, the attorney.

Aruffo, who was hired by Francis to



Courtesy of the U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

Navy Cmdr. Michael Misiewicz, center, lies flat on his back in a boxing ring during "Fight Night" at a Manila nightclub in the Philippines. The photograph was introduced as part of a federal court exhibit. In a letter to the judge in his case, Misiewicz blamed his behavior on marital troubles and personal insecurities.

Prosecutors say that in Manila, Philippines, Francis hired a "rotating carousel of prostitutes" for a party. The group guzzled the hotel's entire supply of Dom Perignon and swapped sex partners in the suite.



Photo obtained by The Washington Post

Former Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Scott Buskirk meets with Leonard Glenn Francis. The date the photo was taken was not available.

"I guess in my naivete I never saw that as going against any rules," said Devine, who now serves as the pastor of a parish in Bridgewater, Mass. "I guess I didn't make that connection at the time. Shame on me."

The decadence intensifies

Over time, Francis' corruption of the Blue Ridge's wardrobe became progressively decadent, court records show.

During a port visit in February 2007, he threw a sex party involving multiple prostitutes, Newland and other officers at the five-star Manila Hotel, where Gen. Douglas MacArthur lived when he served as military adviser to the government of the Philippines in the late 1930s, according to the indictment. During the party, "historical memorabilia" related to MacArthur were used in sexual acts, the indictment states.

A year later, during a return visit to Manila, Francis spent more than \$50,000 to stage "a raging midday party" for Blue Ridge officers in the Presidential Suite of the Makati Shangri-La Hotel, the court records show.

Prosecutors say Francis hired a "rotating carousel of prostitutes" for the party. The group guzzled the hotel's entire supply of Dom Perignon and swapped sex partners in the suite, according to the indictment and a person familiar with the bacchanalia.

"I finally detoxed myself from Manila,"

Cmdr. Stephen Shedd, a 7th Fleet planning officer, emailed Francis a week later. "That was a crazy couple of days. It's been a while since I've done 36 hours of straight drinking!!!!"

Over the next six years, some Blue Ridge officers who swallowed Francis' bait grew hungry for more than their steady diet of multicourse meals and romps with prostitutes.

Capt. Donald Hornbeck, the 7th Fleet's deputy chief of staff for operations, persuaded Francis to arrange a culinary internship for one of his relatives at the posh Chalet Suisse restaurant in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and cover \$13,000 of her living expenses, according to the indictment. His attorney, Benjamin Cheeks, declined to comment.

Cmdr. Jose Luis Sanchez, a deputy logistics officer for the 7th Fleet, pleaded guilty to accepting between \$30,000 and \$120,000 worth of cash, paid sex, travel and other favors. Prosecutors say he pocketed at least \$100,000 in cash.

Vincent Ward, an attorney for Sanchez, said the Navy officer could not comment because he has not been sentenced. He said Sanchez "has taken full responsibility for his mistakes" and "looks forward to the day when the truth about his role ... is accurately portrayed to the public."

Even the wife of one of the Blue Ridge's former skippers had her hand out, court records show.

Carol Lausman, the spouse of Capt. David "Too Tall" Lausman, accepted an \$8,400 Versace purse while on a 2011 visit to Hong Kong, according to an indictment against her husband. "Leonard gave me a lovely gift," she emailed a Glenn Defense staff member before complaining that the gold insignia on the purse had cracked.

Glenn Defense sent her a new Versace purse as a replacement.

Carol Lausman has not been charged with a crime and did not respond to requests for comment. But court records show that Francis considered her someone he could exploit to corrupt the Blue Ridge's commanding officer.

During an earlier visit by the flagship to Thailand, Francis told his staff in an email to pay for Carol Lausman to stay at a beach resort with her husband and for other perks.

"Fast track and VIP service. Best room at Sheraton," Francis instructed. "Arrange Market trip and tour for shopping in Bangkok. She wants to make silk pants. Cheap price. We pay her ha."

David Lausman has pleaded not guilty to charges of bribery, conspiracy and obstruction of justice. His attorney did not respond to requests for comment.

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MILITARY



Photos obtained by The Washington Post

Left: Adm. Mike Mullen shakes hands with Leonard Glenn Francis in 2007. Mullen served as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from Oct. 1, 2007, to Sept. 30, 2011. Above: Adm. Robert Willard poses with Francis. He was the commander of U.S. Pacific Command from Oct. 19, 2009, to March 9, 2012. Whenever Francis met with Navy brass, no matter how briefly, he made sure to have an employee tag along with a camera.

FROM PAGE 6

Other spouses allegedly received their share, too. In 2007, Francis gave a pair of Ulysse Nardin watches, worth \$25,000, to Shedd and his wife, according to the indictment.

A few months later, Shedd emailed Francis to ask whether he would mind paying for the couple and two children to vacation in Singapore and Malaysia. "Spank me hard if I'm out of line," Shedd added.

Francis covered their expenses, which totaled \$30,000 for the weeklong vacation, according to the indictment.

A few months later, Shedd allegedly came back for a bigger favor. He was broke. He emailed Francis a spreadsheet listing his personal debts and asked for emergency help in paying them off.

"I've got about 10 days before I'm in big trouble and I really, really appreciate your assistance," Shedd wrote. "I'll get you whatever information you need."

Tired of Shedd's requests for handouts, Francis responded with a demand of his own. He wanted classified details of upcoming ship visits to the South Pacific. "The info is required by tomorrow," he ordered in a brusque email.

The Navy officer obeyed right away, according to the indictment. Francis had his secret ship schedules within eight hours.

Five days later, however, Shedd still had not received the money he needed. Unsure whether he had been duped, he sent Francis a beggarly email: "I was wondering if you have reached a decision on my Shedd Bailout/Rescue Loan proposal."

Whether Francis came through in the end, the indictment does not say. Shedd's attorney did not respond to requests for comment.

The Justice Department investigation has raised questions about whether the admirals in charge of the 7th Fleet were aware of Francis' illicit business practices or should have suspected he was infiltrating their headquarters.

Federal prosecutors have suggested as



Francis poses with Adm. Samuel Locklear in this undated photo. Locklear last served as the commander of U.S. Pacific Command from March 9, 2012, to May 27, 2015.

much: "Francis was able to leverage his way to the top in plain view of generations of senior Naval Officers and Admirals," they wrote in a sentencing memo for Capt. Daniel Dusek, a former 7th Fleet operations officer on the Blue Ridge who is serving a four-year prison sentence.

Although it is common for senior Navy leaders to interact with contractors, Francis went to unusual lengths to rub elbows with admirals. Former associates said he knew that if he could create the impression that he was cozy with the 7th Fleet commander, subordinates would think twice about challenging Glenn Defense's inflated invoices.

Whenever he met with the brass, even for brief encounters, he made sure an employee tagged along with a camera. He solicited official letters from senior 7th Fleet officers praising Glenn Defense, then published them as endorsements in the company's promotional brochures.

Six vice admirals held the job of 7th Fleet commander between 2002 and Francis' arrest in 2013. None has been charged by the Justice Department. The Navy will not say whether it has investigated any of them for possible violations of military law or ethics rules.

Five of the former 7th Fleet commanders — Robert F. Willard, Jonathan W. Greenert, John M. Bird, Scott R. Van Buskirk and Scott H. Swift — declined to comment about their relationships with Francis or did not respond to interview requests from The Post. All except Swift have retired from the Navy.

The only one who agreed to an interview was W. Douglas Crowder, a retired vice admiral who led the 7th Fleet from 2006 to 2008. He said he had been "uneasy" with Francis ever since he met him at a dinner in Hong Kong in 2004 but declined to elaborate.

Crowder said that on the day he took

over as the 7th Fleet commander, after the swearing-in ceremony, he walked into his official residence for the first time at the U.S. Navy base in Yokosuka, Japan. He glanced into the back yard and, much to his surprise, saw Francis standing there with a young Navy officer.

Crowder said he summoned the officer inside. "What is Fat Leonard doing in my back yard?" he demanded. "You brought Fat Leonard into my residence? My 15-year-old daughter lives here. My wife lives here. You get Fat Leonard out of my back yard."

The admiral said he fired the officer — Lt. Cmdr. Edmond Aruffo, who years later would plead guilty to corruption charges — from his position and ordered his staff to keep Francis at arm's length.

But the contractor was hard to dodge, Crowder said. Francis would wangle VIP invitations to 7th Fleet ceremonies and wait patiently for a chance to approach the admiral and shake his hand.

Crowder said he tried to avoid having his photo taken with Francis at such events, with limited success.

"When he comes through a receiving line in Manila, three people behind the president of the Philippines, what are you going to do? Cause a scene?"

He said he was "flabbergasted" by how many former 7th Fleet officers, including several who worked for him, have been charged with taking bribes.

Crowder said he has not been questioned by investigators.

"If I'd have done anything wrong, I'd be before someone by now," he added. "I'm satisfied with my ethical conduct."

Asked whether he or other senior Navy leaders should have detected what was going on, he paused.

"I don't know how to answer that," he said. "Most of us, we spend our lives, you see something wrong, you take action. The other side of the coin is that you trust people."

WAR ON TERRORISM

Russia strikes back as Syrian rebels claim jet's downing

BY ERIN CUNNINGHAM
AND LOUISA LOVELL
The Washington Post

ISTANBUL — Syria's former al-Qaida affiliate claimed responsibility Saturday for the downing of a Russian warplane in northern Syria, apparently using a surface-to-air missile.

The pilot was killed after he ejected and exchanged gunfire with militants on the ground, the Russian Defense Ministry and a monitoring group said.

Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS, a powerful rebel alliance that publicly split from al-Qaida last year, said it had used a man-portable antiaircraft system to shoot down the Su-25 fighter jet as it flew low over the opposition-held town of Saraqeb.

That claim was echoed by Russia's Interfax news agency, quoting the Defense Ministry, as well as the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The incident could raise tensions between Russia and Turkey, which is monitoring a so-called "de-escalation zone" in the northern province of Idlib as part of an agreement made during Syrian peace talks in the Kazakh capital, Astana.

It also raises questions about the source of the apparent MANPADS, a weapon for which Syria's rebels have repeatedly pleaded for their international backers. The United States in particular has been strongly opposed, fearing that antiaircraft weapons could fall into the hands of the country's extremist groups.

State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said any allegation that the United States has provided MANPAD missiles in

Syria was untrue, and she denied that U.S. equipment was used in shooting down the Russian plane.

"The United States has never provided MANPAD missiles to any group in Syria, and we are deeply concerned that such weapons are being used," she said.

Saraqeb has come under heavy bombardment from Russian and Syrian warplanes in recent days as pro-government forces try to recapture a strategic highway linking Damascus to Aleppo. The White Helmets civil defense group said Saturday that seven civilians had been killed in at least 25 strikes on largely residential areas, some of them using barrel bombs.

In the hours after the Russian jet was downed, Moscow also claimed to have killed more than 30 militants in the area, Interfax reported. The agency quoted the Defense Ministry as saying it used "precision-guided weapons" to carry out the strike but didn't give details.

The use of MANPADS in a province where Turkish forces are nominally present could also anger Russia. The two countries have improved ties and cooperated in Syria in recent months, but relations hit an all-time low in 2015, when Turkey, a longtime supporter of the country's rebels, also shot down a Russian warplane inside Syria.

Turkey set up observation points in Idlib last year, ostensibly to monitor the fighting between the rebels and government forces, but it has also been accused of fostering closer ties with HTS.

Moscow entered Syria's civil war in 2015 on the side of President Bashar Assad. Its intervention turned the tide of the brutal



Posted on Twitter by journalist Moaz AlShami

Screen grabs, above and below, from a video show the flaming wreckage of a Russian warplane downed in northern Syria on Saturday.



war, allowing Syria's government to recapture the city of Aleppo from the rebels and beat back militants in other parts of the country.

But Idlib remains under militant control, and HTS exercises significant influence even over areas it does not formally hold.

"Mahmoud Turkmani, the military commander of the HTS air defence battalion, managed to shoot down a military plane by an anti-aircraft MANPADS in the sky of Saraqeb in the Idlib countryside in late afternoon today," Ebba News, the unofficial media outlet used by HTS, reported

Saturday.

"That is the least revenge we can offer to our people, and those occupiers should know that our sky is not a picnic," Mahmoud reportedly said.

Idlib province is also home to more than a million displaced people from around Syria, and renewed fighting has pushed close to a quarter of a million residents to flee again since mid-December, cramming into already packed houses and tented settlements across the region.

Despite repeated appeals to their international backers, rebel groups in Syria have never had a

sustained supply of MANPADS. But they have occasionally used individual weapons captured from the battlefield. Rebels forces have shot down Syrian fighter jets and other Russian military aircraft. In August 2016, a Russian transport helicopter was shot down as it was flying over Saraqeb, killing all five people aboard.

Videos circulating online showed the alleged crash site of the fighter jet in Idlib's Saraqeb, which the United Nations said has recently suffered "heavy shelling and aerial bombardment." According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, an airstrike on a potato market there last week killed at least 16 people, and the town's hospital was also attacked.

Both Russia and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said that the pilot Saturday was killed after exchanging fire with the rebels. He was able to communicate that he had ejected from the aircraft in an area held by HTS, but later "died in a fight with the terrorists," Russia's Defense Ministry said. The ministry also said it was working with Turkey to bring the pilot's body home.

Israelis target ISIS in Egypt as part of covert alliance

BY GREG JAFFE
The Washington Post

Unmarked Israeli warplanes and helicopters have carried out dozens of covert attacks against Islamic State and other terrorist groups inside the Egyptian Sinai in recent years, said two former senior U.S. officials.

The airstrikes by Israeli planes are conducted with the support of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who has led an often brutal campaign inside Egypt to wipe out the jihadi groups but has struggled to defeat them.

In November, the Egyptian affiliate of ISIS launched a brazen attack in which nearly 40 gunmen stormed the al-Rawdah mosque in Egypt's sparsely populated Sinai, killing more than 300 worshippers.

The terrorist group, which consists of more than 1,000 members, first came to

widespread public attention for its suspected role in the downing of a Russian airliner in 2015, in which 224 people were killed. Egypt's military has struggled for years to destroy the group, which briefly seized control of the northern Sinai town of Sheikh Zuweid and has launched dozens of attacks on soldiers, police and Coptic Christian churches.

The covert alliance between Egypt and Israel on counterterrorism shows how the rise of ISIS and other jihadi groups have helped forge quiet partnerships between Israel and its longtime Arab adversaries.

Israeli security officials say that their regional security concerns increasingly align with those of the Persian Gulf states. In 2016, Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon said Israeli officials were secretly meeting with counterparts from the gulf in "closed rooms" united against a common "bad guy" — Iran.

A former U.S. official described the covert counterterrorism alliance between Israel and Egypt as a "big deal" but said that in recent years, counterterrorism relationships have become "a little bit insulated from ups and downs" of the region's tumultuous politics.

"The public perception of those two countries and how they relate is not in sync with how they work together privately on counterterrorism," said the former official, who was granted anonymity to discuss the sensitive alliance.

Another former U.S. official said the cooperation underscores how ineffective the Egyptians have been in combating militants on their own soil.

"It's a symptom of how close the two countries have become in security cooperation," said the former official, who worked on issues in the region. "But it illustrates how poorly the Egyptians have done deal-

ing with the terrorist threat. Both Israel and the United States have complained about the fact the Egyptians have not taken advice and recommendations the United States have been offering for some time."

The official also said news of the cooperation, which he called one of the least well-kept secrets in the Middle East, is unlikely to have repercussions among ordinary Egyptians.

"ISIS has done so many horrible things in Egypt," the official said. "I'm not sure the average Egyptian will be more upset about who's cooperating with who than who's the target of the cooperation."

The Israeli counterterrorism strikes in northern Sinai were first reported by The New York Times. An Israeli military spokesman declined to comment on the alliance or confirm the existence of Israeli military operations inside Egypt.

NATION

Hawaii man devastated about false missile alert

BY JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
Associated Press

HONOLULU — A former Hawaii state worker who sent a false missile alert last month said Friday he's devastated about causing panic but was "100 percent sure" at the time that the attack was real.

The man, who is in his 50s, spoke to reporters on the condition that he not be identified because he fears for his safety after receiving threats. He said an on-duty call that came in on Jan. 13 didn't sound like a drill. However, state officials say other workers clearly heard the word "exercise" repeated several times.

"Immediately afterward, we find out it was a drill, and I was devastated. I still feel very badly about it," he said. "I felt sick after work. It was like a body blow."

His supervisors counseled him but kept him for a decade in a position that had to be renewed each year. The ex-worker disputed that, saying he wasn't aware of any performance problems.

While starting a Saturday shift at the emergency operations center in a former bunker in Honolulu's Diamond Head crater on Jan. 13, the man said, a co-worker took a phone call over the U.S. Pacific Command secure line that sounded like a real warning, he said.

"When the phone call came in, someone picked up the receiver instead of hitting speaker phone so that everyone could hear the message," he said.

The man said he didn't hear the beginning of the message that said, "exercise, exercise, exercise."

Several state reports say the agency had a vague checklist for missile alerts, allowing workers to interpret the steps they should follow differently. Managers didn't require a second person to sign off on alerts before they were sent, and the agency lacked preparation on how to correct a false warning.

Those details emerged Tuesday in reports on investigations about how the agency mistakenly blasted cellphones and broadcast stations with the missile warning. It took more than 40 minutes for the agency to figure out how to retract it.



TIM DOMINICK, THE (COLUMBIA, S.C.) STATE/AP

Authorities investigate the scene of a fatal Amtrak train crash in Cayce, S.C., on Sunday

2 dead in SC train crash

BY MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

CAYCE, S.C. — An Amtrak passenger train slammed into a freight train parked on a side track in South Carolina early Sunday, killing two Amtrak crewmembers and injuring more than 110 people, authorities said. It was the third deadly wreck involving Amtrak in less than two months.

The Silver Star was on its way from New York to Miami with nearly 150 people aboard around 2:45 a.m. when it plowed into the CSX train at an estimated 59 mph, Gov. Henry McMaster said. The crash happened around a switchyard about 10 miles south of Columbia.

The governor said investigators have yet to determine how the Amtrak train ended up on that stretch of track.

"The CSX was on the track it was supposed to be on," McMaster said.

The National Transportation Safety Board sent investigators.

The conductor and engineer aboard the Amtrak train were killed, the coroner's office said. And 116 people were taken to four hospitals, according to the governor.

The main trauma hospital in the area had three patients in critical or serious condition, with the rest treated for minor injuries such as cuts, bruises and whiplash, said Dr. Steve Shelton, Palmetto Health director of emergency preparedness.

The locomotives of both trains were left crumpled, the Amtrak engine on its side. One car in the middle of the Amtrak train was snapped in half, forming a V off to one side of the tracks.

Many passengers were asleep with the train being shaken violently and then slammed to a halt, passenger Derek Petaway told CBS. "You knew we'd hit something or we'd derailed," he said.

Amtrak officials gathered up luggage and other belongings and within hours put passengers aboard buses to their destinations. Before being sent on their way, those who were not hurt were taken to a shelter set up at a middle school, and local businesses provided coffee and breakfast.

The dead were identified as engineer Michael Kempf, 54, of Savannah, Ga., and conductor Michael Cella, 36, of Orange Park, Fla.

Recent Amtrak accidents

Associated Press

Here are some other recent Amtrak derailments and crashes that caused injuries or deaths:

■ **Jan. 31, 2018.** A chartered Amtrak train carrying Republican members of Congress to a strategy retreat crashed into a garbage truck at a crossing in rural Virginia, killing one person in the truck and injuring two others. No serious injuries were reported for anyone on the train. The cause is under investigation; nearby residents have said the crossing arms had been known to malfunction.

■ **Dec. 18, 2017.** Three people were killed and dozens were hurt when an Amtrak train derailed as it made its inaugural run along a new, 15-mile bypass route in Washington state, on route from Tacoma to Portland, Ore. The train was traveling at nearly 80 mph — more than twice the speed limit, around a curve. The National Transportation Safety Board said an engineer told them he misjudged the train's location.

■ **April 3, 2016.** Two maintenance workers were struck and killed by an Amtrak train going more than 100 mph in Chester, Pa. The lead engine of the train derailed.

■ **March 14, 2016.** An Amtrak train traveling from Los Angeles to Chicago derailed in southwest Kansas, sending five cars off the tracks and injuring at least 32 people. Investigators concluded that a cattle feed delivery truck hit the track and shifted it at least a foot before the derailment.

■ **Oct. 5, 2015.** A passenger train headed from Vermont to Washington, derailed when it hit rocks that had fallen onto the track from a ledge. The locomotive and a passenger car spilled down an embankment, derailing three other cars and injuring seven people.

■ **May 12, 2015.** Amtrak train 188 was traveling at twice the 50 mph speed limit as it entered a sharp curve in Philadelphia and derailed. Eight people were killed and more than 200 were injured when the locomotive and four of the train's seven passenger cars jumped the tracks.

■ **March 9, 2015.** At least 55 people were injured when an Amtrak train bound from North Carolina to New Jersey derailed after colliding with an oversized tractor-trailer that was stuck on the tracks in Halifax, N.C.

■ **June 23, 2014.** An Amtrak train hit a vehicle that was apparently driving on train tracks in Massachusetts, killing three people in the vehicle and derailing the train just before midnight in a remote area about 24 miles southwest of Boston. None of the 180 people on board the train was injured.

■ **Oct. 21, 2012.** About a dozen passengers and crewmembers on an Amtrak train from Chicago to Pontiac, Mich., were injured when two locomotives and one or more coaches derailed after the train lost contact with the track near Niles, Mich.

Victims' dad sorry for lunging at Nassar

BY DAVID EGGERT
AND MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, Mich. — A distraught father seething over sexual abuse suffered by three daughters tried to attack former sports doctor Larry Nassar in a Michigan courtroom after a judge rejected his request to confront the "demon" in a locked room, a stunning rush that reflected the anguish felt by parents who trusted him with their children.

Randall Margraves was blocked by an attorney, tackled by sheriff's deputies and hauled out of court Friday. He later apologized, saying he had lost control. Eaton County Judge Janice Cunningham said there was "no way" she would fine him or send him to jail under her contempt-of-court powers.

"I don't know what it would be like to stand there as a father and know that three of your girls were injured physically and emotionally by somebody sitting in a courtroom. I can't imagine that," the judge said.

Nonetheless, she added, it's "not acceptable that we combat assault with assault."

The incident occurred during the third and final sentencing hearing for Nassar, who has admitted to sexually assaulting girls under the guise of medical treatment. This case focuses on his work at Twisters, an elite gymnastics club southwest of Lansing.

Nassar, 54, already will spend the rest of his life in prison. He was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison for assaulting Michigan State University and at his home, and was ordered in December to spend 60 years in a federal prison for child pornography crimes.

Nassar pleaded guilty to molesting nine victims in Eaton and Ingham counties, but the courts have been open to anyone who says he was assaulted during his decades of work at Michigan State, Twisters and USA Gymnastics, which trains Olympians. More than 200 accusers so far have spoken or submitted statements in the two counties, and at least 80 percent have agreed to be publicly identified.

Margraves' dramatic move occurred after he listened to two of his daughters speak in court for 10 minutes. Lauren Margraves, a college student, said her parents were told in 2014 that 80 percent have agreed to be publicly identified.

"I see the look in their faces and I know they want to be able to do something, but they can't," she told Nassar. "The guilt they have will never go away. All this is because of you."

Her father then stepped up and asked the judge if she would grant him "five minutes in a locked room with this demon." Cunningham declined and also turned down his request for "one minute." Then when Margraves rushed toward Nassar.

NATION

Government set to borrow nearly \$1 trillion this year

By HEATHER LONG
The Washington Post

It was another crazy news week, so it's understandable if you missed a small but important announcement from the Treasury Department: The federal government is on track to borrow nearly \$1 trillion this fiscal year — President Donald Trump's first full year in charge of the budget.

That's almost double what the government borrowed in fiscal year 2017.

Here are the exact figures: The U.S. Treasury expects to borrow \$955 billion this fiscal year, according to documents released Wednesday. It's the highest amount of borrowing in six years and a big jump from the \$519 billion the federal government borrowed last year.

Treasury mainly attributed the increase to the "fiscal outlook." The Congressional Budget Office was more blunt: "a report last week, the CBO said tax receipts are going to be lower because of the new tax law."

The uptick in borrowing is yet another complication in the heated debates in Congress over whether to spend more money on infrastructure, the military, disaster relief and other domestic programs. The deficit is already up significantly, even before Congress allots more money to any of

these areas.

"We're addicted to debt," said Marc Goldwein, senior policy director at Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. He blames both parties for the situation.

What's particularly jarring is this is the first time borrowing has jumped this much (as a share of GDP) in a nonrecession time since Ronald Reagan was president, said Ernie Tedeschi, a former senior adviser to the U.S. Treasury who is now head of fiscal analysis at Evercore ISI. Under Reagan, borrowing spiked because of a buildup in the military, something Trump is advocating again.

Trump didn't mention the debt — or the ongoing budget deficits — in his State of the Union address. The absence of any mention of the national debt was frustrating for Goldwein and others who warn that America has a major economic problem looming.

"It is terrible. Those deficits and the debt that keeps rising is a serious problem, not only in the long run, but right now," Harvard economist Martin Feldstein, a former Reagan adviser, told Bloomberg.

The White House got a taste of just how problematic this debt situation could get last week. Investors were concerned about all the additional borrowing and the likelihood of higher inflation, which is why the interest rates

on U.S. government bonds hit the highest level since 2014. That, in turn, partly drove the worst weekly sell-off in the stock market in two years.

The belief in Washington and on Wall Street has long been that the U.S. government could just keep issuing debt because people around the world are eager to buy up this safe-haven asset. But there may be a limit to how much the market wants, especially if inflation starts rising and investors prefer to ditch bonds for higher-returning stocks.

"Some of my Wall Street clients are starting to talk recession in 2019 because of these issues. Fiscal policy is just out of control," said Peter Davis, a former tax economist in Congress who now runs Davis Capital Investment Ideas.

The Federal Reserve was also buying a lot of U.S. Treasury debt since the crisis, helping to beef up demand. But the Fed recently decided to stop doing that now that the economy has improved. It's another wrinkle as Treasury has to look for new buyers.

Tedeschi, the former Treasury adviser to the Obama administration, called it "concerning, but not a crisis." Still, he said it's a "big risk" to plan on borrowing so much in the coming years.

Treasury forecasts borrowing over \$1 trillion in 2019 and over \$1.1 trillion in 2020.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

President Donald Trump, in his State of the Union address on Jan. 30, did not mention the national debt or the ongoing budget deficit.

Before taking office, Trump described himself as the "king of debt," although he campaigned on reducing the national debt.

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget predicts the U.S. deficit will hit \$1 trillion by 2019 and stay there for a while. The latest borrowing figure — \$955 billion — was determined from a survey of bond market participants, who tend to be even faster to react to the changing policy landscape and change their forecasts.

Both parties claim they want to be "fiscally responsible," but Goldwein said they both pass legislation that adds to the debt. Politicians argue this is the last time they'll pass a bill that makes the deficit worse, but so far, they just

keep going.

The latest example of largesse is the GOP tax bill. It's expected to add \$1 trillion or more to the debt, according to nonpartisan analysis from the Joint Committee on Taxation (and yes, that's after accounting for some increased economic growth).

But even before that, Goldwein points to the 2015 extension of many tax cuts and the 2014 delays in Medicare reimbursement cuts.

"Every time you feed your addiction, you grow your addiction," said Goldwein.

There doesn't seem to be any appetite for budgetary restraint in Washington, but the market may force Congress' hand.

Funding: Military, supporters preparing for another possible work stoppage

FROM FRONT PAGE

"I think another CR is much more likely than another shutdown," said Molly Reynolds, a governance studies fellow at the liberal-leaning Brookings Institution in Washington. "The only way I see another shutdown happening is if the group of House Republicans who have threatened to vote against another CR ... actually do so and enough House Democrats follow through on their commitment to oppose a CR" without an immigration fix.

But amid rising tensions on the Hill, even temporary budget bills have been a challenging feat in recent weeks. For the first time in nearly five years, a three-day government shutdown was triggered Jan. 20.

The move had minimal impact, especially compared with a 16-day halt in 2013 that delayed a rash of military programs, including personnel pay and death gratuity benefits for Gold Star families.

Some key lawmakers have said they are closer this time around to an overall deal. "They are very close to a budget agreement," Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, and chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services, said from a Republican retreat in West Virginia on Thursday. "The big question is will there ... be some folks in the Senate who hold that deal hostage to other issues."

There are talks about a two-year plan that could surpass statutory budget caps

for defense and nondefense spending. A 2018 military budget of \$700 billion awaits funding, and last month, reports revealed that President Donald Trump's White House will ask for \$716 billion for 2019.

It's still an uphill battle, as lawmakers will also need to consider lifting the debt ceiling by early March.

"I've earlier deal, there has been parity in the increases for defense and nondefense spending," Fish said of previous budget plans. "But a huge increase in federal spending to coincide with raising the debt ceiling is an incredibly tough pill to swallow for fiscal hawks."

Republicans will need votes from Senate Democrats, who have been holding out for an extension to the Deferred Action for Childhood

Arrivals, or DACA, program, which faces a March 5 deadline.

Even though the military prepares for another possible work stoppage, the Pentagon is sounding an optimistic tone.

"I trust that Congress will do their job and pass a budget and write the check," Pentagon spokeswoman Dana White said in a media briefing Thursday.

However, the military and their supporters are continuing to weigh preparations for another potential shutdown with lessons learned from last month's halt in noncritical operations. Among them is a plan that would let Gold Star families receive death benefits despite a government shutdown has garnered a rash of new sponsors and supporters, including the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America organization.

"I'm very hopeful that with their help, this bill will get a vote," said Keith Humphrey, of Kansas, a Navy veteran and father-in-law to a fallen Marine Corps servicemember, who has been working on the bill.

Last week, Army Secretary Mark Esper, during travel to U.S. European Command, said he and his fellow civilian leaders are working to mitigate further disruptions.

The shutdown affected training for tens of thousands of National Guard and Reserve soldiers, he said.

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, along with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, implored Republican members for a budget deal during a private meeting at their West Virginia retreat.

operated under a CR," Thornberry said following the meeting with Mattis and Tillerson.

"The secretaries were very clear and direct about the imperative about getting a budget agreement in place so that we can end the series of CRs and threats of shutdown."

Some have said that a new continuing resolution could extend to March 22, which could run into a late February-to-early March deadline to raise debt ceiling.

"The need to raise the debt limit ... is important because if negotiations over a spending bill get wrapped up with the debt limit, that would raise the stakes," Reynolds, of the Brookings Institution, said.

If a continuing resolution goes past the debt ceiling date, that would keep the negotiations separate, Reynolds said.

Thornberry has kept the window open to reluctantly vote for another continuing resolution.

"We are just gonna have to see what the situation is when it arrives," he said. "Obviously, there is a lot of conversations among members about the way forward, nobody wants a government shutdown but we also cannot continue to inflict the damage that CRs inflict on the military. We can't keep doing that."

Stars and Stripes reporter Dan Stoutamire contributed to this story.
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'Nobody wants a government shutdown but we also cannot continue to inflict the damage that CRs inflict on the military.'

Rep. Mac Thornberry
R-Texas

NATION

Former CIA director: Nunes 'abused' his power

By SHANE HARRIS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The former director of the CIA on Sunday blasted a Republican memo alleging abuses of power by the FBI and the Justice Department.

John Brennan accused Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, of selectively releasing information to accuse law enforcement officials of improperly obtaining a warrant to monitor the communications of a Trump campaign adviser.

"It's just appalling and clearly underscores how partisan Mr. Nunes has been," Brennan said in an interview on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"He has abused the chairmanship of [the Intelligence Committee]," Brennan said.

Brennan headed the CIA during a sprawling investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016 election and the Trump campaign's connections to Russia. He said that from his perspective, the FBI was "very forthcoming" with information presented to a court that authorized surveillance on the campaign aide, Carter Page. That surveillance was first authorized in October 2016.

Brennan said that he first became aware in the summer of 2016 of a dossier of information about Trump and his Russian connections that had been compiled by a former British intelligence officer. Nunes' memo portrays that dossier as "essential" to obtaining the warrant, but it doesn't specify which portions were used, and Democrats have disputed the accuracy of Nunes' claims.

Brennan said he didn't see the

memo until September 16, although he knew that journalists were inquiring about it.

"I do think it was up to the FBI to see whether they could verify any of it," Brennan said, but he emphasized that the dossier played "no role whatsoever" in an assessment by all U.S. intelligence agencies that Russia had interfered in the 2016 election. He added that intelligence agencies were also developing their own information on Russia's interference "on multiple fronts" and that the FBI had its own sources of information.

The release of the memo has raised concerns that Trump will use it as grounds for firing the deputy attorney general, Rod Rosenstein, who oversees the special counsel probe investigating Trump's ties to Russia and potential obstruction of justice by the president and his aides. Trump sought last June to fire the special counsel, Robert Mueller III, but backed off after White House counsel Donald McGahn threatened to resign.

Reince Priebus, the former White House chief of staff, said on "Meet the Press" that he "never felt that the president was going to fire the special counsel," disputing a Washington Post report that he was "incredibly concerned" that Trump was moving to fire Mueller.

"I never heard that," Priebus said. But when pressed on whether he was aware of the president's views on the issue, Priebus said Trump was "clear" about what he saw as Mueller's conflicts of interest in the job and allowed that others may have "interpreted" that as Trump's desire to fire Mueller.

Trump says Russia memo vindicates him

By ERIC TUCKER, MARY CLARE JALONICK
AND CHAD DAY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has claimed complete vindication from a congressional memo that alleges the FBI abused its surveillance powers during the investigation into his campaign's possible Russia ties. But the memo also includes revelations that might complicate efforts by Trump and his allies to undermine special counsel Robert Mueller's inquiry.

The four-page document released Friday contends the FBI, when it applied for a surveillance warrant on a onetime Trump campaign associate, relied excessively on an ex-British spy whose research was funded by Democrats. At the same time, the memo confirms that the investigation into potential Trump links to Russia actually began several months earlier, and was "triggered" by information involving a different campaign aide.

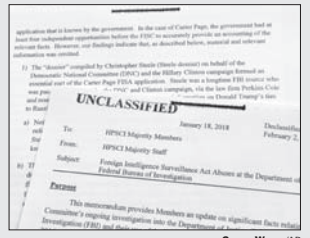
Christopher Steele, the former spy who compiled the dossier, acknowledged having strong anti-Trump sentiments. But he also was a "long-time FBI source" with a credible track record, according to the memo from the House Intelligence Committee chairman, Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., and his staff.

The warrant authorizing the FBI to monitor former campaign adviser Carter Page's communications was not a one-time request but was approved by a judge on four occasions, the memo says, and even signed off on by the second-ranking official at the Justice Department, Rod Rosenstein, whom Trump appointed as deputy attorney general.

Trump, however, tweeted Saturday that the memo puts him in the clear.

"This memo totally vindicates 'Trump' in probe," he said. "But the Russian Witch Hunt goes on and on. Their (sic) was no Collusion and there was no Obstruction (the word now used because, after one year of looking endlessly and finding NOTHING, collusion is dead). This is an American disgrace!"

The underlying materials that served as the



The Republican-led House Intelligence Committee released a memo based on classified information that alleges the FBI abused its surveillance powers when probing Russian interference in the 2016 election.

basis for the warrant application were not made public in the memo. As a result, the document only further intensified a partisan battle over how to interpret the actions of the FBI and Justice Department during the early stages of the counterintelligence investigation that Mueller later inherited.

The memo's central allegation is that agents and prosecutors, in applying in October 2016 to monitor Page's communications, failed to tell a judge that the opposition research that provided grounds for the FBI's suspicion received funding from Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign and the Democratic National Committee. Page had stopped advising the campaign sometime around the end of that summer.

Democrats said it was misleading and incorrect to say a judge was not told of the potential political motivations of the people paying for Steele's research.

The memo's release also comes amid an effort by Trump and congressional Republicans to discredit Mueller's investigation. His probe focuses not only on whether the Trump campaign coordinated with Russia but also on whether the president sought to obstruct justice.

\$1.6M spent to shield wall prototypes from protests that didn't happen

By GREG MORAN
The San Diego Union-Tribune

San Diego County Sheriff's Department deputies, fearing large-scale protests over the construction of prototypes for President Donald Trump's proposed border wall last fall, logged more than 10,000 hours of overtime over three months before and after construction.

The department had previously disclosed it spent \$764,278 on overtime for security. It was the largest single expenditure — more than the \$715,170 in wages paid out — of a total expense of \$1.6 million.

In all, 356 employees worked overtime hours on 46 separate dates from Sept. 7 through Dec. 15, according to a county spokeswoman. Collectively, they totaled 10,227 hours of overtime work.

A more precise breakdown of the overtime payouts was not provided. Spokeswoman Alex Bell said that the amount of overtime varied by employee.

"Public safety staffing is dy-

namic, and the Sheriff's Department scaled up and down staffing as necessary based on intelligence information over the three-month period," Bell said in an email that accompanied the information.

Deputies did not provide security for the construction site itself, located near the international border on Otay Mesa. Instead, the security was for anticipated protests, demonstrations or marches that Department of Homeland Security officials had warned local law enforcement could occur.

There were no protests during the monthlong construction of the eight prototype walls. Local activists said they ignored the project so as not to draw attention to it.

Bell said the "majority" of overtime hours were logged from the period of Sept. 25 through Oct. 1, the first week of construction work. More came for a small rally near the site held Dec. 9, long after the walls were up and construction crews had left.



ELLIOTT SPAGNA/AP

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department spent a total of \$1.6 million shielding prototypes of President Donald Trump's promised border wall over the course of three months. The department feared large-scale protests would be organized over the construction.

NATION

Fla. Keys to raise roads due to rising sea levels

By ALEX HARRIS
Miami Herald

In a small Key Largo neighborhood, the tide came in — and didn't go out for almost a month.

Residents sloshed through more than a foot of saltwater that lapped at their front yards, knocked over their trash cans, created a mosquito breeding ground and made their roads nearly impassible. Some residents rented SUVs to protect their own cars. Others were homebound.

One started a Facebook page to document the flooding: Key Largo Community Swamp.

That was the fall of 2015, courtesy of freak weather and high tides. Neighbors have clamored for solutions since, and Monroe County has finally pitched a potential fix. Officials want to elevate the lowest, most flood-prone road in Key Largo's Twin Lakes community and in the low-lying Sands neighborhood of Big Pine Key — and 2018 might be the year it happens. The county will start accepting design proposals in the coming weeks, and money for construction could be available in October.

It's a small but significant project — it will be the first road project in the Keys specifically designed for adaptation to future sea level rise, a clear and present problem for the famous chain of islands. The county has already spent \$10 million on road projects that include elevation and plans to spend at least \$7 million more in the near future. But these are the first to include collecting, pumping and treating the stormwater that runs off the newly raised road.

These small stretches of roads are a test case for the county. Monroe hopes to use lessons learned here on the rest of the roads that climate change will swamp in the years to come. Out of 300 total miles of county

roads, half of them are susceptible to sea level rise in the next 20 years, said Rhonda Haag, the county's sustainability program manager.

It won't be cheap. Estimates show raising just one-third of a mile of road above sea level could cost a million dollars in Key Largo and over \$2.5 million in Big Pine. For comparison, the county spent \$3.3 million repairing about 2 miles of road in Lake Surprise Estates in Key Largo. That was a less ambitious fix that rebuilt some parts, elevated others and included more limited drainage additions.

This new project is nothing like the county has done before, said Haag. It's "like comparing oranges to apples."

Elevating is pricier than repairing a regular chunk of road because the process entails much more than just pouring extra asphalt on top. All that water from incoming tides has to go somewhere, and handling it requires building new structures like pumps and pipes.

"In the Keys, we don't have drainage infrastructure," said Haag. "Basically, it's blacktop on the road."

The unique geography of the Keys plays a big part in why drainage solutions common in other areas won't work on the South Florida islands. Underneath the dirt on each island is porous limestone rock. Sometimes, when water levels get high, that sponge-like rock is filled with groundwater. It can degrade the materials used to form the base of the county's roads and crack asphalt. Water that close to the surface doesn't leave much room to dig or build underground.

High groundwater also means engineers can't count on the ground to absorb runoff, so they'll have to turn to pumps to send the water elsewhere, as Miami Beach does. The city has spent more than \$125 million on a drainage system and elevated roads.



CHARLES TRAINER JR., MIAMI HERALD/TNS

Rhonda Haag, Monroe County sustainability program manager, shows the height the roads will be raised under a new program.

Unlike Miami Beach though, Monroe wants to clean the water they're pumping back into the ocean. Miami Beach filters the water for large objects such as plastic bottles, but studies have shown the pumps pick up fecal matter from the roads and wash the pollution straight into the bay.

"You cannot do that," Haag said. "We absolutely, positively have to treat the stormwater before it's released."

Treatment is pricey, and building the necessary pipes and treatment plant will likely make up a significant amount of the project's costs. Pumps also require backup generators in case of emergencies, which require extra land, something the current cost estimate doesn't factor in.

When the county first considered raising the roads, the plan was to use gas taxes and road repair money. After Hurricane Irma decimated a large swath of the lower and middle Keys (including the project area in Big Pine) the county now has access to

FEMA hazard mitigation grants. Haag said Monroe is considering applying.

An estimate shows raising less than a mile of road could cost the county north of \$3.5 million. In Big Pine, that chunk of road is going up a foot. In Key Largo, it's being raised 6 inches. Those elevations are just an inch above what researchers say is necessary for both roads to be above sea level for the next 25 years.

Still, researchers say the fixes would buy some time for the islands. The roads are expected to be higher than sea level until at least 2040. By then, scientists predict climate change will raise the sea level between 7 and 18 inches, which would leave these roads — if left as they are — underwater.

Even with these millions of dollars in reconstruction, there isn't a guarantee that these roads will stay totally dry. Haag said the new roads should still see an average of seven days of flooding a year, depending on which sea level rise prediction comes true.

Man recovers after drifting for 16 days in the Atlantic

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A Bahamian man has been restored to health at a Florida hospital after drifting on the Atlantic Ocean for 16 days.

Samuel Moss Jr., of Nassau, the Bahamas, spoke with reporters Friday at St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach.

Moss, 23, set sail from Bimini to Nassau on Jan. 13 in a new 21-foot angler. He quickly ran out of gas as he tried to sail through rough waves. He drifted alone until another boater spotted him Jan. 29 about 10 miles off the coast of West Palm Beach.

Moss said he survived on potato chips, cookies and bottled water for 12 days, until a 40-foot wave hit his boat and wiped out his meager supplies.

Dr. Kevin Buford said Moss' electrolytes were dangerously low when the U.S. Coast Guard flew him ashore.



Courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard

The Coast Guard found Samuel Moss Jr. inside this disabled boat about 10 miles off the coast of Palm Beach County on Jan. 29.

5 fishermen rescued after marlin sinks boat

By WAYNE K. ROUSTAN
Sun Sentinel

Five men were pulled from the choppy ocean off Boynton Beach, Fla., after their fishing boat sank about 4 miles offshore Saturday.

A marlin, which yanked on the boat until it started taking on water, was blamed for the sinking.

The captain and crew of a passing 55-foot charter catamaran spotted the five men bobbing in the water and plucked them from the sea before handing them over to the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard said it received a call about 9:24 a.m. that a 31-foot pleasure craft with five aboard was rapidly taking on water.

Palm Breeze charter Capt. Charles Mount, Elena Markel and her daughter, Stefania, 13, were returning to Boca Raton from a charter trip when they overheard the Coast Guard talking to one of the distressed men on the radio.

"One of the guys said they were sinking and it happened by the Breakers (hotel)," Elena Markel said. "We had just passed there, then suddenly the captain started screaming, 'Elena, drop the sails

down.'"

The men were clinging to the sinking boat. The catamaran moved closer and life jackets were thrown to the men, who swam to the catamaran and climbed aboard. By then, their boat was completely submerged.

Once on the Palm Breeze, one of the men said they had been fishing and hooked a blue marlin that pulled their boat backward, and it took on water and sank.

The men were taken to the Lake Worth Inlet Coast Guard station. Their identities were not immediately available. They were in the water for more than 30 minutes, Markel said.

The charter trip was supposed to be one day, and the catamaran was scheduled to return to Boca Raton on Friday. But Markel said they stayed in Palm Beach after going to a friend's party.

"If we had not stayed that night we would have missed the rescue," she said. "Maybe it was meant to be."

Markel had taken Stefania along on the overnight trip because it was Take Your Child to Work Day, she said.

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Vol. 1—No. 241

1 Fr.

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Sunday, March 25, 1945

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NATION

Giving shape TO RAGE

New generation of LA Satanists finds community during a time of chaos

By AUGUST BROWN
Los Angeles Times

In November, in the candlelit basement of a house just above the Silver Lake Reservoir, Alexandra James walked over to an altar where her husband, Zachary, waited near a bleached human skull, teeth locked in eternal rictus. From the altar, she lifted a sword and drew points across his chest while a circle of onlookers watched solemnly (well, a few giggled, too). An organist played eerie minor key chords, and Alexandra turned to face the group.

"On this altar, we consecrate swords to direct the fire of our unholy will," she said. "A human skull, symbol of death. The great mother, Lilith, created us all and will destroy us all."

"Hail, Satan! Hail, Satan! Hail, Satan!" The group chanted back.

James had planned the ritual as the climax of a low-key house party that included a dozen or so friends associated with ritual magic — artists, writers, rock musicians who freely mingle occult vocabularies (Satanist, coven, witches), none taken too literally. But a bigger moment came a few hours later when word circulated that Charles Manson had died.

Far from mourning a man whose crimes burned satanic imagery into the American mainstream, everyone cracked beers in celebration and jammed on psych rock tunes. Bonnie Bloomgarden, the singer for the band Death Valley Girls, joked that Manson's spirit would be reincarnated as a small dog and that she'd probably accidentally adopt it.

In service of radical politics

It was a great night for a heterodox generation of new, self-described Satanists who are upending old "Rosemary's Baby" and "Helter Skelter" stereotypes in service of radical politics, feminist aesthetics and community unity in the divisive time of President Donald Trump.

Given the never-ending chaos in American life, when nuclear war seems to many to be just one juvenile presidential tweet away, a coterie of artists are rediscovering Satanism's imagery and rituals in a city with a long, rich and weird history of contrarian philosophies. "Traditionalists might debate if any of it is properly 'satanic' at all; this new take is much more feminist than nihilist, flexibly self-aware and better versed in internet culture than orthodox theology."

"In terms of the aesthetics of the occult, it's everywhere you look. There are so many young women, especially, who use occult imagery to define new identity," said Anna Riller, a director whose 2017 film "The

Love Witch" beautifully revamped '70s Technicolor-genre films for our era of wry misandry and new social movements.

"What I'm trying to do is to transform the witch from a figure of male fear and fantasy into a figure of female power and sexuality. For some women, it represents healing; for others, raw power; for others, the freedom to be unorthodox or to find their own spirituality outside of the family system," she said. "It's important for women to try to reclaim our images for ourselves."

That, more than anything, is the animating force behind this new wave of interest in both Satanism and the occult (which are two separate things, sometimes mingled together). If satanic rituals of old were centered on smashing Christian orthodoxy and middle American propriety — or more basely, on taking drugs and having sex — this form of Satanism explicitly uses a huge range of ideas to give shape to the inchoate rage felt by so many — especially women and other marginalized groups. These new converts believe that when confronted with so much chaos, one way to make sense of it is to conjure it themselves.

Black magic

"If you don't give people some sense of magic and community, you get the Proud Boys," Alexandra said, referring to the fraternal neo-fascist group created by Vice Media co-founder Gavin McInnes. Zachary agreed: "People like the Proud Boys have their own social clubs, and that's black magic. Instead of running away from that, we need to find better ways of organizing ourselves."

"In these times, a lot of people want to not feel helpless," he added. "And Lucifer was the original rebel angel."

Like in any extreme subculture, the definitions and lessons of Satanism have always been fought over (whenever anyone in the scene talks about Satan and magic, it's usually not literal but a metaphor for human potential).

Los Angeles history is filled with outsiders coming together under the mantle of the occult, an oft-inflated sphere of sometimes-opposing worldviews, which range from atheist Satanism to neo-pagan traditions like Wicca.

Some in the current generation of self-described Satanists seem flexible on doctrinal disputes, favoring inclusivity, especially for women, often the losers in both traditional religion and radical politics. Los Angeles' chapter of the Satanic Temple has a mission statement that promises to "encourage benevolence and empathy among all people, reject tyrannical authority, advocate practical com-



MYUNG J. CHUN, LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

Active Satanists Zachary and Alexandra James are part of the band Twin Temple, a self-described "satanic doo-wop" group.

mon sense and justice and be directed by the human conscience to undertake noble pursuits guided by the individual will."

In 2015, the temple held a ritual to "demonize" St. Junipero Serra, who founded the brutal early Spanish missions in California.

Anton LaVey's atheist Church of Satan wouldn't approve, but there are common threads here with young women of color exploring traditions like Santería or Yoruba beliefs for rebellion and self-care today, including Bri Luna, the black and Mexican Seattle mystic and artist behind the Hood Witch brand, which just received a glowing profile in *Vogue*.

An individualist approach

Ruth Waytz is a magistra in the official LaVey-founded Church of Satan, whose mission is "dedicated to the acceptance of man's true nature — that of a carnal beast, living in a cosmos that is indifferent to our existence." (It also maintains a hilarious, politically salient Twitter feed.) For her, Satanism should also be a corrective to contemporary liberal pieties.

"Our writers, directors, producers and designers lead the charge on our real-world individualist approach — not some spooky, occultic mumbo jumbo, which is often anti-Satanic and mired in mysticism," she said. "LaVey formulated Satanism as a resistance to the collectivist 'resistance' of the '60s. His philosophy is one of individual self-empowerment, of a will to power via the manipulation of the carnal and material world. And sometimes, that takes unconventional, contro-

versial forms because Satanists are often the outcasts within their externally defined social groups.

"Satanism is not new and has never been about seeking inclusion in the herd, but celebrating being apart from it," she said.

The Jameses' group — not officially affiliated with any one strain of Satanism — is loosely based around their doo-wop band Twin Temple, which sounds like the Marvelettes if that group had pined after the blessings of Baphomet instead of the boy next door. They got their start playing shows for the music-activist collective Play Like a Girl. Dressed in uniforms of black leather and lace, the couple made quite a striking duo on the town, and soon enough, others wanted in on their scene.

On Halloween, much of the group gathered in the basement of the Hollywood bar Black Rabbit Rose, where a who's who of modern occultists gathered for rituals, rock shows and talks from the scene's demimonde elite.

At the witching hour, Twin Temple performed a full set, capped with a ritual during which it performed an anti-baptism of its covenmate, the young film director Kansas Bowling. Blood-smeared and stripped down to nearly "sky-clad," as they put it, Bowling was offered up in service to the goddess Lilith as an avenging angel for crimes against women.

"Some of these men, like Harvey Weinstein, are finally being held accountable for their crimes," Alexandra yelled at the crowd. "What do you think, shall we burn him at the stake? Or shall we drown him and see if he floats?" The crowd erupted in cheers for both.

WORLD

Italian police: No remorse from shooting suspect

By COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

MILAN — The extreme right-wing suspect in a shooting rampage that wounded six African migrants in Italy has demonstrated no remorse for his actions and was "lucid and determined, aware of what he had done," an Italian law enforcement official said Sunday.

Luca Traini, 28, was being held in jail as police investigate him on multiple counts of attempted murder from Saturday's shooting rampage in the central Italian city of Macerata, with the aggravating circumstance of "racial hatred."

Traini was an unsuccessful candidate last year in a local election for the anti-migrant Northern League party, and friends have been quoted by ANSA as saying he previ-

ously had ties with the neo-fascist Forza Nuova and the CasaPound political parties.

Col. Michele Roberti, the Carabinieri commander in Macerata, told Sky TG24 that "it's likely that he carried out this crazy gesture as a sort of retaliation, a sort of vendetta" after a Nigerian man was arrested in the gruesome slaying of an Italian teenager a few days previously in the same city.

The dismembered remains of Pamela Mastropietro, 18, were found days after she walked away from a drug rehab community. Police arrested the Nigerian suspect after finding the victim's bloody clothes in his apartment, along with a receipt from a pharmacy where she bought a syringe, and knives that are consistent with the crime.

Police photos showed the shooting suspect with a neo-Nazi tattoo on his forehead and an Italian flag tied around his neck.

One of Traini's victims, a 29-year-old woman identified only as Jennifer, told the daily La Stampa from her hospital bed that she no longer feels free to walk around the city "with peace of mind" after the attack.

One of the six victims — five African men and Jennifer — was treated and released Saturday. The remaining patients were all in stable condition, with one in intensive care and Jennifer facing surgery on her shoulder, doctors said Sunday.

Her boyfriend told the La Repubblica newspaper that they were waiting at a bus station when he saw a man pointing something at them from a car. He realized then that it was a gun.

"I gave Jennifer a push to get her out of the way and threw myself down. And I heard a shot: Boom," said Ogie Igbinowiana.

Jennifer told La Repubblica that she ar-

rived in Italy seven months ago and joined her boyfriend in Macerata.

"I have always been comfortable here. People are friendly. I don't know why that guy fired at us," she said.

The shooting spree also came amid a heated electoral campaign in Italy where anti-foreigner sentiment has become a key theme. Italy has struggled with the arrival of hundreds of thousands of migrants in the last few years coming across the Mediterranean Sea in smugglers' boats.

Italy is heading into a general election on March 4 and the head of the rebranded League party, Matteo Salvini, is pledging to deport 150,000 migrants in his first year in office if his party wins control of parliament — drawing sharp rebukes that he is using the migrant crisis to foment xenophobia for political gain.



APTN/AP

This image taken from video on Saturday shows wall paintings inside a 4,400-year-old tomb near the pyramids outside Cairo.

4,400-year-old tomb found near Cairo

By MENNA ZAKI
Associated Press

CAIRO — Archaeologists in Egypt have discovered a 4,400-year-old tomb near the country's famed pyramids at the Giza plateau just outside Cairo, the Antiquities Ministry said Saturday, the latest discovery that authorities hope will help revive the country's struggling tourism sector.

The tomb was found in a wider area of Giza's western necropolis, which is known to be home to tombs from the Old Kingdom.

It likely belonged to a woman known as Hetpet, who archaeologists believe was close to Egyptian royals of the 5th Dynasty. The tomb, unveiled Saturday, is made of mud brick and includes wall paintings in good condition depicting Hetpet observing hunting and fishing scenes.

Other scenes also depict a monkey — in pharaonic times, monkeys were commonly kept as domestic animals — picking fruit. Similar scenes have been found in other tombs belonging to the later 12th dynasty, according to the ministry's statement. Another scene shows a monkey dancing before an orchestra.

According to the ministry, the archaeological mission behind the discovery started excavation work in October. Archaeologists have been making discoveries near the site since the 19th century.

"This is a very promising area. We expect to find more," Mostafa al-Waziri, who led the mission, told reporters at the site. "We have removed between 250 and 300 cubic meters of layers of earth to find the tomb."

"What we see above the earth's surface in Egypt doesn't exceed 40 percent of what the core holds," he added.

Al-Waziri believes Hetpet had another tomb in Giza's western necropolis and said excavation work is underway to find that one, too.

Hetpet is a previously known figure in Egyptian antiquity, though her mummy has not been discovered yet. Fragments of artefacts belonging to Hetpet were found in the same area in 1909 and were moved to a museum in Berlin, Antiquities Minister Khaleel al-Anani said Saturday.

Despite the discoveries already made about ancient Egypt, experts say they hope to find much more — in part thanks to modern technology — treasures still bur-

ied under the vast desert.

The area of the latest discovery is close to a new museum under construction that will house some of Egypt's most unique and precious artifacts, including many belonging to the famed boy King Tutankhamun.

The first phase of Grand Egyptian museum is expected to open later this year while the grand opening is planned for 2022.

In January, Egypt placed the ancient statue of one of its most famous pharaohs, Ramses II, at the museum's atrium, which will include 43 massive statues.

Throughout 2017, the Antiquities Ministry made a string of discoveries across Egypt — including some in Luxor, known for its spectacular temples and tombs spanning different dynasties of ancient Egyptian history.

Egypt hopes the inauguration of the new museum, along with the recent discoveries, will draw back visitors to the country where tourism has been hit hard by extremist attacks and political turmoil following the 2011 popular uprising that toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak and the authorities' struggles to rein in an insurgency by Islamic militants.

Child abductions rise amid civil war in South Sudan

By SAM MEDNICK
Associated Press

AKOBO, South Sudan — It's been almost two years since Deng Machar's three young children were abducted from his home and likely sold for cattle. Sitting in South Sudan's opposition-held town of Akobo, he pointed to the dirt beneath his feet.

"They were playing right there," Machar, 35, said. "It would be easier if they were dead because then I could forget."

Machar said his 4-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son were likely sold for cattle after being seized by men from the rival Murle tribe. He doubts his 2-year-old son is still alive. Eleven children in all were abducted from this area that day and none has been seen since.

It is a little-known tragedy in South Sudan's civil war. Child kidnappings between clans have increased as people become more desperate amid widespread hunger and a devastated economy, human rights groups say.

While tracking child kidnappings is challenging amid the conflict and mass displacement, Edmund Yakani, executive director of the nonprofit Community Empowerment for Progress Organization, said his organization has confirmed abductions in several parts of the country. Those include 11 children seized last year in Abyei in the north, five taken between 2012 and 2014 in the Wau area in the west, and seven in 2016 and 2017 in the Yei area in the south, near the Ugandan border.

The United Nations says its child protection team confirmed abductions in the regions of Unity, Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile and Western Equatoria last year.

Although inter-clan fighting, cattle raiding and abductions are deep-seated throughout this East African country, Yakani called it a particular problem in Jonglei state, where the town of Akobo is located and where many in the Murle tribe base "their livelihood" on selling "children."

During a recent trip to Akobo,



SAM MEDNICK/AP

Deng Machar sits in his yard in Akobo town, recounting the day his children were abducted from his home almost two years ago.

near the Ethiopian border, The Associated Press spoke with Murle tribesmen who acknowledge stealing and trafficking children for personal gain.

"The intention is to trade the children for cattle or use them personally," said Thiro Akun-gurouth, a Murle youth leader who knows some of the abductors.

One child, no matter what their age, can sell for 20 cows, worth about \$7,000, he said.

Children who aren't sold are kept by families without kids while girls are groomed for marriage. Akun-gurouth said. Abducted girls often are married to their captors.

Authorities in Akobo said 37 children have been seized in the surrounding areas since 2016, more than in the first three years of the war combined. It was not clear how many children have been abducted across the country during the civil war.

Over the years some organizations have tried to work with the tribes, encouraging them to return the kidnapped children and halt the practice.

Last month, a conference held between the Nuer and Murle tribes in the village of Burnath outside Akobo discussed the possible return of some of the children, including three who were abducted on Jan. 17.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man accused of biting trooper pleads insanity

OH LORAIN — An attorney for a man facing charges for biting off part of an Ohio State Highway Patrol trooper's ear has entered a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

The Elyria Chronicle-Telegram reported Cornelius Carey Jr., 44, is charged in Lorain County with felonious assault, resisting arrest and kidnapping. The insanity plea was filed Tuesday.

Authorities allege that Carey became confrontational, hit Trooper Lance Deshuk in the face and then bit him during a struggle before Deshuk managed to subdue Carey and handcuff him. The confrontation occurred after Deshuk spotted Carey walking in the middle of road near the village of LaGrange.

Carey is being held on a \$1 million bond.

DUI suspect pins baby in stroller against wall

CA GLENDALE — Southern California authorities said a suspected drunken driver was arrested after his car jumped a sidewalk and pinned a stroller carrying an 11-month-old baby against a building.

Police said the child was not hurt in the Jan. 27 crash in Glendale. An adult and a 7-year-old suffered minor injuries when they jumped out of the way as the Camaro careened toward them.

Sgt. Dan Suttles said the Camaro was involved in a hit-and-run incident nearby earlier in the evening when it crashed into a vehicle nearby.

Naked robber not guilty by reason of insanity

FL FORT LAUDERDALE — A federal judge said a Florida man who robbed a bank, stripped naked and ran down the street, throwing stolen money, is severely mentally ill and can't be held responsible for the crime.

Chief U.S. District Judge K. Michael Moore found Alexander Sperber, 26, not guilty by reason of insanity following a 25-minute trial Wednesday. Sperber will remain in jail while receiving mental health treatment.

Prosecutors said a dye pack exploded as Sperber ran. A Regions Bank branch in Fort Lauderdale in July. Covered in red dye, he shed his clothes and tossed money into the air.

The SunSentinel reported that Sperber told investigators a chip in head compelled him to rob the bank so that he could pursue his career as a comedian.

Sled dog race canceled because of iffy snow

ME GREENVILLE — The 100-mile Wilderness Sled Dog Race in Maine's Moosehead Lake region is kaput for this season.

Officials said Jan. 29 that recent warmer weather and rain have created trail conditions that are not safe for mushers or dogs.

Amey Dugan, one of the

THE CENSUS

\$100K

The approximate value of retail merchandise five Maryland women have been charged with stealing in a suspected theft ring. Charges announced Wednesday for Tyraiah Shonita Graham, 23; Donna Leunne Moye, 39; Lisa Marie Williams, 54; Lyric Taj McLaughlin, 21; and Tiara Kianna Baker, 19, include conspiracy to commit a theft scheme with a value of \$100,000 or more. Prosecutors allege the women would enter stores together, put display merchandise into large bags and leave without paying.



MICHAEL CATERINA, SOUTH BEND (IND.) TRIBUNE/AP

Fire and ice

Howard Busfield, with the Michiana Ice Carving Association, uses a torch to clear the ice on a sculpture he calls "Kryptonite" for the Fire and Ice First Fridays event in downtown South Bend, Ind.

race organizers, said canceling the 12th annual event was "heartbreaking."

Paper hits back at other paper's editorial

RI PROVIDENCE — The biggest newspapers in Connecticut and Rhode Island are feuding over which state is worse. The Hartford Courant in Connecticut wrote a scathing editorial after The Providence Journal in Rhode Island published an editorial calling its New England neighbor struggling, and blasting its business climate as enormously difficult.

The Journal's Jan. 24 piece ends by calling on Rhode Island Democratic Gov. Gina Raimondo to try to attract jobs from Connecticut to Rhode Island, calling it "certainly less risky" than Connecticut.

In a Friday editorial headlined "Why, Rhode Island, Why?" the Courant responded by detailing a long list of its neighbor's woes. Those included pension problems, economic issues and "a legacy

of corruption that not even Connecticut can match." It closes by encouraging the states to work together.

Man rescued after sand tunnel collapses

FL CRESCENT BEACH — Rescue crews aided a man who became trapped when a sand tunnel collapsed on him on a Florida beach.

St. Johns County Fire Rescue Sgt. Lucas Smith told the Florida Times-Union crews found the man under almost 3 feet of sand in a dug-out hole next to the dunes on Jan. 28 near Crescent Beach.

Lucas said the man, whose name hasn't been released, appeared to be middle-aged. Crews had to remove the sand to reach him, and he was in cardiac arrest.

Girl, 8, remains calm despite knife to chest

CA LOS ANGELES — An 8-year-old girl says she

was afraid she'd die but remained calm as a man grabbed her and held a butcher knife to her chest in the doorway of a Los Angeles store.

Natanyah Garcia told KABC-TV she thought it was "the end of the world" when he grabbed her from behind and held the knife inches from her chest Friday evening at the Echo Park Walgreen's.

Bystanders urged the man to drop the knife and to run away. He finally did, then was arrested quickly on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon and possessing methamphetamine.

Arts venue invites dogs to canine-inspired films

NY GENEVA — A New York arts venue is inviting people to bring their dogs to the movies.

WHED said the Smith Opera House in Geneva will be showing four canine-inspired films Feb. 11-17. Dogs will be admitted for free — and will even get treats.

The movies are "Best in Show," "The Artist," "Bolt" and "Must Love Dogs."

Samaritan's truck stolen after accident

MO WEST ALTON — A man stopped to help victims of a car crash in eastern Missouri, only to have two men involved in the crash carjack the good Samaritan's truck.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported a Toyota Avalon sped through a red light in West Alton on Tuesday and struck a car. The Avalon turned out to be stolen.

Several motorists stopped to help and the men in the Avalon reportedly offered some of them money to help them flee. Police said the men eventually confronted one man and threatened to kill him if he didn't hand over his 2016 Dodge Ram pickup.

The truck was later found about 6 miles away.

From wire reports

FACES

JOKING AROUND

Comedian Roy Wood Jr. on humor in the era of Trump

The Associated Press: We've seen comics from Conan O'Brien to Jimmy Kimmel turn more political of late, joining the likes of Stephen Colbert, Samantha Bee and Seth Meyers. Do all comics have a responsibility to address politics?

Wood: I don't know if we have a responsibility. As a comedian, I don't think you give an oath to give a damn. But there are comedians who give a damn. I could name some comedy specials that have come out in the last two years and they didn't address a single drop of anything that's going on. And that worked for those guys because that's their style of comedy. But there are definitely comedians out there who will take an issue head-on and run right into a brick wall and don't care about being wrong.

You were a journalist for many years before turning to comedy full-time. Do you see any connection between the two jobs?

I would argue that comedians and print reporters — specifically print reporters — are the white blood cells of a sickened democracy. They're the only two that have the time and space to flush out an educated, measured response and an educated and measured analysis of what's going on.

Your comedy has always explored the larger issues and the absurdity of things. How do you describe it?

Ultimately what I wanted to do was not necessarily hit issues on the nose. I'm not as smart as a Chris Rock or a Dennis Miller. I'm not as well read as a Jon Stewart or a Lewis Black. I know that that specificity of political attack, I can't do. But what I can do is talk about the issues that are in that orbit. If someone could go, 'Let's talk about apples. Let's talk about oranges,' then my jokes are about the produce department.

How did you train to not do the obvious jokes?

What I used to do when I first started, I would watch 'ComicView' every night and I would make a running tab of every topic that was discussed. So by the end of the season, I had four pages of topics and I put them into columns — sex, poverty, dating — and the types of jokes under each column. And the first thing I decided was 'I'm just not going to do jokes about any of those things.' So, at minimum, I'm different. Even if I'm not the funniest, maybe you'll book me because maybe I'm just something you haven't seen before.

The stakes seem higher if you're talking about serious issues rather than silly observational humor.

Comedians that choose to talk about social issues exist on a higher tightrope than the guys who only talk about themselves or who only talk about the mundane. We're talking about the risk to your career.

With every stand-up routine seemingly deconstructed these days, how are we meant to assess a comedian?

Somewhere in all of your favorite comedians is something that you like and something you probably could have done without. But to get that, he had to give you this, too. And that's part of the process. I'm not sitting here saying comedians should be able to just roll carte blanche because I'll also say freedom of speech doesn't give you freedom of consequence. That's something everybody says, and I believe that. But comedians are willing to take the hit. Don't sit up here and tell us to say it.

But you have to say it, right? There's a danger if a comedian messes up.

Comedy is the only form of entertainment that's still under construction when you're consuming it. The model? The outfit is done. The singer? The song is done. The dancer? The

routine was rehearsed. But this joke — this is a thought, bro. This might be the first time it's coming out of my head and it might need some tempering.

Or maybe there's a word and a tweak that needs to be changed so that I'm more clear about the point I'm trying to make. That's a trial and error that takes place over time.

What happens to comedy after Trump? Does it just bounce back to pre-Trump topics? Or is it forever changed?

I don't know if we can bounce back from that. What I do know is that regardless — after this administration runs its course — we won't be the same. We won't be the same country comedically. 9/11 is not a fair analogy, but it's the closest thing to something cataclysmic that completely altered who we were as a people. The difference between 9/11 and Trump is that 9/11 made us stronger and gave us more resolve and brought us together. Now there's more division. So who knows if after Trump leaves office if we'll be a nation that will still be divided.

By MARK KENNEDY/Associated Press

It's fitting that comedian Roy Wood Jr. is an avid player of Sudoku. "The Daily Show with Trevor Noah" correspondent always seems to be a few steps ahead of the obvious.

It's a necessary skill when you make jokes during a time of fake news and political division. "The problem with writing jokes now is that stuff evolves so damn fast," he says, laughing.

Wood, a radio host for a dozen years, is the new host for Season 4 of Comedy Central's "This Is Not Happening," a storytelling series in which performers offer real tales from their lives.

The Associated Press recently talked to Wood about punchlines in the Donald Trump era, how comics seem crucial now and about how he honed his approach watching BET's "ComicView."



Roy Wood Jr. is a "Daily Show with Trevor Noah" correspondent and new host of the show "This Is Not Happening." Comedy Central

Recording Academy announces creation of task force for gender balance

From wire reports

Recording Academy chief Neil Portnow said Feb. 1 the organization is creating a task force to uncover unconscious biases and other barriers that impede women's success in the music industry.

The announcement comes days after Portnow claimed his comments on women needing to "step up" in the music industry were taken out of context. The remarks have been criticized by several prominent musicians, including Sheryl Crow, Katy Perry, India.Arie and Pink.

Portnow says in the statement that he now understands the pain his "poor choice of words" after the Grammy Awards has caused. He says while his comments aren't indicative of his beliefs, they do reflect real women's experiences in the industry.

He promised the Recording Academy would put itself under a microscope and tackle whatever truths are revealed.

"I appreciate that the issue of gender bias needs to be addressed in our industry, and share in the urgency to attack it head on" Portnow said.

Portia de Rossi gives wife DeGeneres a gorilla sanctuary

Actress Portia de Rossi is giving wife Ellen DeGeneres her own namesake gorilla sanctuary for her 60th birthday.

De Rossi announced the gift during an episode of "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" that aired Feb. 1. Her donation to the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund will create a permanent home in Rwanda for the organization that has been protecting endangered mountain gorillas for 50 years.

DeGeneres said in a statement Thursday that she is "beyond excited" about the opportunity to work with the group. She said de Rossi "knew the exact right gift to give me." DeGeneres has been an animal-

rights activist for many years. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals named her "woman of the year" in 2009.

Other news

■ **Tarana Burke**, founder of the #MeToo movement, is working on a book. The publishing imprint 37 Ink told The Associated Press on Feb. 2 that Burke's "Where the Light Enters" is scheduled for early next year.

■ **Record executive Charlie Walk** says he won't appear on the finale of the competition show "The Four." Walk says in a statement released Jan. 31 through his attorney that he does not want his "presence to be a distraction" at the live show. Walk was placed on leave Jan. 31 by Republic Records after a former employee accused him of sexual harassment in an open letter posted on her website. Walk denies misconduct.

■ **Tony Award-nominated actor Louis**

Zorich, who played a Greek diner owner in "The Muppets Take Manhattan" and the father of Paul Reiser's character on the NBC sitcom "Mad About You," has died. He was 93. Jonathan Mason, a representative at the Buchwald talent agent, says Zorich died Tuesday at his home in New York.

■ A coroner's official in Los Angeles says former "Glee" actor **Mark Salling's** death has been ruled a suicide. Los Angeles coroner's spokesman Ed Winter said Feb. 1 an autopsy determined that Salling, 35, died from asphyxia after hanging himself.

■ A wrongful death lawsuit filed against **Jim Carrey** by the husband and mother of his ex-girlfriend was dismissed Jan. 25 in Los Angeles Superior Court.

■ The E! channel says an investigation into a misconduct allegation against host **Ryan Seacrest** found insufficient evidence to support the claims. In a statement Feb. 1, the channel said outside counsel conducted the now-ended investigation.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Investment pros stay calm after rate fears hit stocks

By STAN CHOE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The stock market has finally found something to fear.

For more than a year, investors have brushed off bombastic talk about nuclear war, dysfunction on Capitol Hill and other worrisome situations. The Dow Jones industrial average and the Standard & Poor's 500 glided to record after record, with few hiccups.

Last week, the calm cracked. The stock market finally got spooked by an ongoing sell-off in bonds. As bond prices fell, their yields go up, a signal of rising interest rates. Low interest rates have been an underpinning of the current bull market in stocks, now in its ninth year.

On Friday, the rate on the 10-year Treasury note jumped to a four-year high. The Dow and S&P 500 each lost around 4 percent, their worst week since January 2016.

On Friday, the Dow dropped 665 points, or 2.5 percent. Some earnings-related selling in big names such as Apple and Exxon Mobil added to the swoon. Some investors believe the market can recover, noting that both global economic growth and corporate earnings remain strong. One hallmark of this bull market has been investors' willingness to buy the dips. The drop could test their resolve.

Since the Great Recession, ultra-low interest rates have made it easier for businesses and companies to borrow. They also

have pushed investors into buying stocks by minimizing the interest payments from bonds.

Rates were due to rise, and investors cast a wary eye on the 10-year Treasury as it rose earlier this year. Those concerns hit a high point on Friday after a U.S. government report said wages last month rose at the fastest pace in eight years.

Bigger paychecks are a welcome sight for workers, but can also signal that inflation is about to pick up across the economy.

The Fed could raise interest rates more quickly than investors are prepared for if inflation accelerates at too fast a pace. That could further upset markets, which have seen an unusual lack of volatility for more than a year.

Many fund managers and ana-



RICHARD DREW/AP

Specialist Meric Greenbaum works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Friday. The stock market closed sharply lower, extending a weeklong slide.

lysts say they're optimistic stocks can keep rising, even if interest rates continue to climb. As long as inflation doesn't spike out of control, stocks can rise if earnings continue to grow.

Many analysts expect earnings to keep growing because of the strength in the global economy. Few economists see a recession striking anytime soon.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Feb. 5)	\$1.2799
Dollar buys (Feb. 5)	€0.7813
British pound (Feb. 5)	\$1.46
Japanese yen (Feb. 5)	¥100.00
South Korean won (Feb. 5)	₩1,050.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.4139/0.7072
Canada (Dollar)	1.2389
China (Yuan)	¥6.2998
Denmark (Krone)	5.9895
Egypt (Pound)	£1.6445
Euro	\$1.2426/0.8048
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8214
Hungary (Forint)	248.38
Israel (Shekel)	3.4426
Japan (Yen)	¥110.41
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2998
Norway (Krone)	7.7150
Philippines (Peso)	₱51.57
Poland (Zloty)	3.35
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7517
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3184
South Korea (Won)	₩1,089.32
Switzerland (Franc)	₣0.9324
Thailand (Baht)	31.45
Turkey (Lira)	₺3.7673

Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. For Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, or nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.50
Discount rate	2.00
Federated market rate	4.42
3-month bill	1.43
30-year bond	3.02

Yellen lands new job at Brookings Institution

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, the first woman to head the nation's central bank, got a boisterous send-off from Fed staff, but she isn't taking any time off. After her last day at the Fed on Friday, she will start a new job Monday at the Brookings Institution.

The Washington think tank announced that Yellen will be joining the institution's Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy as a distinguished fellow in residence. One of her colleagues will be her predecessor, former Chairman Ben Bernanke, who joined Brookings in 2014 when he stepped down from the Fed.

In an interview on her last day, Yellen said



Yellen

for the first time publicly that she was disappointed that President Donald Trump did not nominate her for a second term. She is the first Fed leader not to be given the chance to serve a second term in four decades.

"I would have liked to serve an additional term and I did make that clear" when she interviewed with Trump, Yellen said in an interview broadcast by PBS. "So I would say I was disappointed not to be re-appointed."

But Yellen said that she was grateful for the Fed career she did have which covered not

only a four-year term as Fed chair but also serving as Fed vice chair for four years before that and also service as president of the Fed's San Francisco regional bank.

"I really have had a seat at the table through tumultuous times including the financial crisis and the recovery and its wake, and I am very satisfied with the career that I have had," she said.

In a tweet Friday, Bernanke said, "I congratulate Janet on her outstanding public service and look forward to being her colleague at the Brookings Institution."

Trump decided against offering her a second term and instead tapped Fed board member Jerome Powell. Powell will be sworn in Monday.

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published two days (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 450002, APO AF 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 450002, APO AF 96301-5002.

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OPINION

Lessons in Israel's 'bloody-nose' strikes

By DAVID IGNATIUS

Washington Post Writers Group

TEL AVIV

If the Trump administration is really thinking about trying to give North Korea a "bloody nose" with a limited military attack, it should look carefully at Israel's experience — which shows the possible benefits of a quick strike, but also the difficulty of keeping a lid on a conflict once it starts.

Discussions with Israelis at a conference here reinforced the value of deterrence, but also offered some basic lessons: If you're going to try a quick hit, don't talk about it; don't strike unless you have very good intelligence about your targets; and don't assume that your adversary won't drag you into a long, bloody war.

All three negatives complicate any plans to strike North Korea. President Donald Trump keeps advertising his eagerness to attack "Little Rocket Man," as he calls Kim Jong Un. American intelligence about North Korea is imperfect, to put it mildly. And it's entirely possible (some say likely) that North Korea would retaliate hard rather than absorb a U.S. strike.

There's one final, essential point: Unlike any of the adversaries that Israel has attacked, North Korea has nuclear weapons.

The Trump administration's consideration of a limited-strike was described in a Washington Post op-ed piece Wednesday by Victor Cha, whose nomination to be ambassador to South Korea was shelved after he privately expressed doubts about the bloody-nose strategy. His column was much discussed at the annual gathering here of the Institute for National Security Studies.

Amos Yadlin, a former head of Israeli military intelligence who now heads the institute, argued that if the CIA had good intelligence about what to hit, the U.S. Air Force can destroy anything it wants. But speaking on the same panel, Michele Flournoy, a former U.S. undersecretary of defense, warned that North Korea has scattered its stockpile of nuclear weapons and buried some deep underground. That means a quick, supposedly surgical American attack would almost certainly still leave North Korea with a potent arsenal for a counterattack.

Israel probably knows more about deterrence than any other country. For 70 years, its survival has depended on the credibility of its willingness to use force, and to pre-empt adversaries if necessary. Often this hard-nosed approach has succeeded in preventing wars or keeping them short. But it has sometimes meant protracted, costly conflicts that left Israeli weary and its adversaries plotting the next round.

Yadlin embodies the doctrine of pre-emption. As a fighter pilot, he led the 1981 raid that destroyed Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor. This strike came before the reactor was operational, and it blocked one Iraqi path toward nuclear weapons. But after receiving this big punch in the nose, Baghdad embarked on a clandestine nuclear weapons program.

Israeli raids on Syria show the importance of keeping quiet, if you want to avoid reprisals. After bombing a Syrian nuclear reactor in 2007, Israel didn't take credit — hoping to avoid a public humiliation of President Bashar Assad that would increase the likelihood he would retaliate. Unfortunately, Trump's trash-talking

against Kim has made this low-key approach almost impossible.

Israel's wars in Gaza and Lebanon show that deterrence isn't permanent, and that hopes for short, punitive military actions can prove illusory. Since the terrorist Hamas organization took power, Israel has fought three costly wars in Gaza, in 2008-09, 2012 and 2014. The Hamas threat has been checked, but not destroyed.

To combat the Palestine Liberation Organization, Israel invaded Lebanon in 1978 and again in 1982. The 1982 assault eventually drove the PLO from Lebanon. But amid the rubble, Iran helped spawn the Hezbollah militia, a more disciplined and potentially deadly adversary. Israel attacked Hezbollah in 1993, 1996 and 2006. The last campaign rained so much destruction on Lebanon that it seemed to accomplish its goal of deterrence. But thousands of Hezbollah missiles remain pointed at Israel.

In 1982, I watched the Israeli army sweep toward Beirut with devastating speed, only to get bogged down in a summer-long siege. A year later, I was in Beirut and, of course, I visited Jerusalem to interview Prime Minister Menachem Begin. But Yehiel Kadishai, his closest aide, waved me off. Because of heavy casualties in Lebanon, he said, "there is a deep sadness in his heart."

That's the image of war that any commander in chief must consider: not the hope that it will be a glorious success, but the risk that it will come at a ruinous cost.

Trump rightly wants to deter North Korea, but he should be wary about betting on a short, quick attack. As a top Israeli military official told the INSS conference, "The battlefield is the kingdom of uncertainty."

Menendez case shows rising bar for corruption

By RANDALL D. ELIASON

Special To The Washington Post

Proving public corruption has never been easy. The demise of the federal government's case against Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., is the latest sign that it's getting more difficult every day.

Federal prosecutors announced Wednesday they will not seek to retry Menendez and his co-defendant, Salomon Melgen, on federal corruption charges. Their trial last fall ended in November with the jury hung 10 to 2 in favor of acquittal. The government charged that over a seven-year period, Melgen showered Menendez with gifts including private jet travel, luxury vacations and hundreds of thousands of dollars in political contributions. In exchange, prosecutors alleged, Menendez interceded on Melgen's behalf in various disputes he was having with the federal government.

Less than two weeks ago, prosecutors announced their intention to try again. Menendez was gearing up for a new trial that would coincide with his facing a potential re-election fight in November and a new challenger in the New Jersey Democratic primary before that. But on Jan. 24, the trial judge acquitted the defendants on seven of the 18 counts in the indictment, ruling that a rational jury could not find them guilty on the evidence presented at trial. Left with a dramatically diminished case, prosecutors threw in the towel.

Although the judge's order left more than half the indictment intact, it essentially gutted the case, which explains the government's about-face concerning a retrial. The judge threw out the bribery counts that alleged that Menendez acted in exchange for about \$700,000 in political contributions from Melgen. Those were the big-dollar charges, the ones with perhaps

the greatest likelihood of convincing a jury that Menendez agreed to exercise his official powers in exchange for the donations.

They were also the charges with the strongest proof of a quid pro quo. The evidence at trial showed that Menendez took specific actions on Melgen's behalf very close in time to when these large contributions were made — sometimes even on the same day. But when the alleged bribe is a political contribution, prosecutors can't rely solely on an inference created by the timing. The Supreme Court has set a higher bar, requiring proof of an explicit link between the donation and the official act. The Menendez judge ruled that the evidence at trial failed to clear that bar.

That left the government with a bribery case that would have focused on the private jet trips and vacation getaways. These were far less valuable, and the proof of a connection between those gifts and any acts by Menendez was much more attenuated. Most of those counts relied on the so-called "stream of benefits" theory, alleging that Melgen gave Menendez gifts over time in exchange for an inference that the acts to be taken were "opportunities arose."

The trial judge upheld this theory and ruled last week that a rational jury could have found the defendants guilty on those counts. But if the jury convicted, the defense would have vigorously challenged the stream-of-benefits theory on appeal, and recent Supreme Court cases suggest that the theory may be vulnerable. This legal vulnerability may also have affected prosecutors' decision not to proceed with the case.

For those concerned about the influence of money in politics, the legal developments in recent years have not been encouraging.

As long as there is a system of privately financed campaigns for which politicians

are allowed to raise money, we must require compelling evidence to charge political contributions as bribery. After all, a politician accepting a donation and later taking actions favored by the donor is simply politics as usual — it happens every day.

But requiring a higher level of proof also means that only the most blatant and clumsy corrupt officials will be subject to prosecution. Those who are careful enough not to make explicit deals are safe.

Gifts that are not political contributions, such as Melgen's private jet trips, can be more compelling evidence of corruption. But even those must now be linked to specific "official acts," as narrowly defined by the Supreme Court in the recent case of former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell. And as the Menendez case demonstrates, it is always a challenge to prove corrupt intent if neither party testifies and there is no smoking gun.

Corrupt deals are seldom clearly spelled out or reduced to writing. A great deal of corruption takes place through winks, nods and tacit understandings — and that corruption is increasingly moving beyond the reach of the criminal justice system. Access to government power is more freely available than ever to those with the means to purchase it.

These problems are not irreversible. Congress could amend federal corruption law to return to prosecutors some of the tools they used to have. The cynical among us can't help but wonder how likely it is that Congress will make such reform a priority. But if there is to be a solution, it is increasingly apparent it will need to come from the legislative and political arenas, not the courts.

Randall D. Eliaison teaches white collar criminal law at George Washington University Law School.

OPINION

Politics can't divide America's charitable instincts

By GARY ABERNATHY

Special To The Washington Post

The disparate reactions by members of Congress to President Donald Trump's State of the Union address revealed Republicans and Democrats deeply divided, with most in the GOP cheering wildly and most Democrats sitting on their hands. Naturally the roles were reversed when President Barack Obama was in office.

So much is said about our divided nation that we are in danger of believing it. Fortunately, most Americans do not define their lives by their political affiliations — no, not even here in Trump country.

When Houston was hit last year by Hurricane Harvey, families were displaced, schools opened late and, for a lot of students, Christmas was shaping up to be nothing more than another Monday in December.

So in November, Mindy Lawson, a teacher at Hillsboro High School — more than 1,000 miles from Houston — contacted the Houston Independent School District to ask who needed help the most. She was pointed to Evan E. Worthing High School.

Worthing High School is in Harris County, Texas, where Hillary Clinton received about 54 percent of the vote overall in 2016. But according to county election officials, Clinton got about 95 percent of the vote in the Sunnyside precincts that

Worthing draws from. The student population at Worthing is 82 percent black, 17 percent Hispanic and about one-half of 1 percent white.

Hillsboro High School is in Highland County, Ohio, where 76 percent of voters supported Donald Trump. Ninety-two percent of Hillsboro students are white, 2 percent are black, and 1 percent are Hispanic, along with a small number of other racial identifications.

After speaking with Worthing officials, Lawson shared an idea with Hillsboro students: Let's bring Christmas to Worthing. Students immediately embraced the concept, and others began to chip in. What was dubbed "Hillsboro to Houston" snowballed, with Lawson noting: "People were volunteering to offer everything from services such as wrapping presents to delivery vehicles from self-owned trucking companies. It was a very overwhelming response."

Eventually, about 1,500 gifts were collected, and Hillsboro residents Jon and Laura Pickering-Polstra volunteered to make the 18-hour drive in a 15-passenger van, along with their five children, to deliver the presents. Enough gifts were transported to allow families to choose three for each student and one for each adult.

A few weeks after Christmas, Times-Gazette Assistant Editor Jeff Gilliland met with Hillsboro students to talk about their project. Gideon Pickering-Polstra said that as he watched the gifts being distributed, "I was smiling because we were helping all



A car is submerged in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey near the Addicks and Barker reservoirs in Houston on Sept. 4.

these people. I noticed that they were getting presents they don't normally get, and I was like, 'whoa.' Sometimes in Hillsboro we take for granted everything we, or at least I, have in comparison to the rest of the world."

There was no conversation between the two schools on the merits of Trump country vs. Clinton country, no discussion of racial issues, no debates about other political opinions. There was only one group of high school students helping another group of high school students.

"First of all, it wasn't just the school and kids, it was an entire community that those kids impacted," Khalilah Campbell-Rhine, the principal at Worthing, told Gilliland. She added that the impression

left with the Worthing student body was lasting. "They didn't know that someone from that far away would think to do something like that," she said. "It gave them the thought that they should pay it forward, and now they are planning a project to do something for someone else."

Outreach efforts such as "Hillsboro to Houston" happen often across the United States, including both extravagantly planned projects and small but meaningful gestures. Such acts don't receive the round-the-clock media attention accorded to the battles that rage in the political world, but they're at least as important.

When Americans are contacted by pollsters and asked to consider whether they approve of Trump, or whether they support a particular legislative proposal, or whether they'll vote Republican or Democrat in the next election, they'll usually provide an answer. But for the most part, they weren't thinking about it before they were asked, and they return to more important things after they hang up.

The pollsters tell us we're a divided nation, a mantra endlessly repeated in the political media. But in reality, when it matters most, Americans don't sit on their hands. They reach out and help, without caring how someone else voted in the last election. That's what will always make America great and forever united.

Gary Abernathy, a contributing columnist for The Washington Post, is publisher and editor of the (Hillsboro, Ohio) Times-Gazette.

DOD: 'Myths' distort military's image with future recruits

By TOM PHILPOTT

Special to Stars and Stripes

Seventeen years of war, TV spots depicting the struggles of wounded warriors, and curbs on military advertising budgets have left the armed forces with an image problem that could take years to repair, said a senior Department of Defense official.

Unsettling myths about the military are rising among recruit-age youth and "influencers" — parents, teachers, clergy and coaches — in part because increasingly they have no personal or family ties to the armed forces, said Lernes "Bear" Hebert, acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for military personnel policy.

"While there is great support for military service men and women, we do find that misperceptions about service have taken a toll on propensity to serve," Hebert said. "And because we're not out there offering a contrary message, we're seeing a decline that is most troubling."

He cited various recent survey results that show many of recruit-age youth and influencers perceive service life negatively. Many are surprisingly unaware of key attractions of service life, including robust GI Bill education benefits to earn college degrees and skills training that supports satisfying civilian careers.

For example, 63 percent of youth ages 16 to 24 believe it is "likely" or "very likely" that a person leaving the military today has psychological or emotional problems. "They hear about post-traumatic stress disorder and all the challenges faced by service men and women post-conflict, and believe that's indicative of the vast majority of military service members," Hebert said.

The same survey found 61 percent of youth believe it likely or very likely someone getting out of service today will have difficulty readjusting to everyday life. Forty-eight percent believe it is likely or very likely that a person departing the military has a physical injury.

Absent any other information, Hebert

MILITARY UPDATE

said, the public has no way to put in context the many ads they see soliciting donations to support injured veterans.

"The risks are very real and service is unlike anything else you will do in the civilian world," Hebert said. "But by far the vast majority of servicemembers leave the military perfectly healthy and move on to very rewarding and fulfilling lives."

He cited other survey results showing that, in 2004, 85 percent of youth ages 16 to 21 thought it "extremely likely" that joining the military would allow them to earn money for college. By fall 2016, the proportion who knew that, through military service, they could earn money for college had fallen to 60 percent.

The 25-point drop occurred despite the fact that Congress, in 2008, enacted the Post-9/11 GI Bill, with vastly improved veterans' education benefits. So it is worrisome when recruit-age youth aren't being told at school or home about one of the most significant benefits they can realize from military service, Hebert said.

"We may not be able to compete with every large corporation on pay, but our benefits are second to none," he said. "So, we really need to do something to educate prospective recruits that you can have a pretty good quality of life and a great [educational benefit] on leaving service after one term."

Over the same period, 2004 to 2016, the proportion of youth who felt the military provided an attractive lifestyle declined from 63 percent to 35 percent.

And one of the oddest myths about military life, particularly in this age of social media and instant communication, involves personal contacts. The proportion of youth who believe that, while in service, a member is able to stay in touch with family and friends fell from 58 percent down to 23 percent. The apparent fear, said Hebert, is that "either you're going to be se-

questered somewhere or you're going to be deployed with no way to contact your family or friends."

On average the services need 264,000 new recruits each year, taken from a pool of about 400,000 that youth surveys estimate have a propensity to serve.

To address negative misperceptions or general disinterest in the military among others, the Defense Department will ask Congress this year to fund a mass marketing campaign to educate youth and their influencers on the attractions of service life. Though he could not discuss the size of the marketing effort until the budget is unveiled, Hebert forecast a "pretty significant campaign."

"We fully appreciate that people don't get media the same way they did five years ago," he said. Therefore, the campaign "will be split between addressing influencers and [media] they frequent, as well as getting into social media and online to approach youth in a more meaningful way."

A second initiative, called "This Is Your Military," won't require budget dollars. Starting in February, military commands and personnel will be encouraged to reach out to local communities to try to broaden understanding of service life.

Each month the focus of this outreach will change. In February the theme is that servicemembers are "people just like you," Hebert said. In March the focus will be educating communities and youth about the variety of job skills found in the military. In April, the breadth of education benefits will be highlighted.

The challenge of educating Americans on their military got harder after the draft ended in 1973. Over the years more military bases across the country closed and the force got smaller, further reducing military ties to towns and communities.

In 1995, 40 percent of youth ages 16 to 24 had at least one parent who served in the military. By 2016 that had fallen to 15 percent, according to the department's Youth Attitude Tracking Survey (1995) and Youth Poll (2016).

"As a result, they don't get firsthand accounts of what military service is all about," Hebert said. Perceptions instead are shaped by "what they see in the news, what gets streamed or the many advertisements [for] helping [injured] veterans."

A survey conducted last spring showed 49 percent of young adults ages 17 to 35 couldn't name the four largest branches of service. Only 17 percent could get all five to include the Coast Guard. In the same Military Ad Tracking Reserve Study, 60 percent of young adults said they weren't at all knowledgeable about the military.

The DOD aggravated the perception problem when, starting in 2010 as military budgets tightened and recruiting remained strong, it stopped advertising about the military in general, though each service continued to run its own ads to go after recruits as needed. That rollback in advertising has weakened the military's "brand" among Americans, and it's working to establish a lot more to get back into establishing your brand than it does to maintain your brand," he said. "If Coca-Cola stopped advertising and we stopped calling everything a Coke, then it would take them a significant investment to get that branding back. I think that's the situation the department is in now."

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, a retired Marine Corps general, is personally engaged in the effort to better educate youth and influencers. He has called for more detailed reports on recruiting and retention than past defense chiefs sought.

"He knows probably more about the business than we do by the depth of questions he's asking," Hebert said. He knows "recruiting is something you do [continually] and not just for recruits you're bringing in next year but for recruits you're bringing in for the next five years.... It's a long-term investment the department has to make to sustain the all-volunteer force."

Sends comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, Va. 20120; email milupdate@aol.com; Twitter: @Military_Update.

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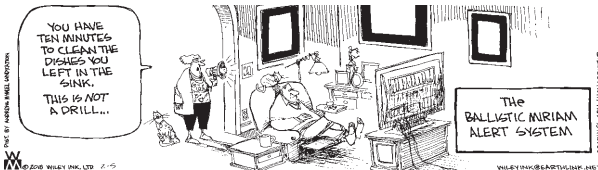
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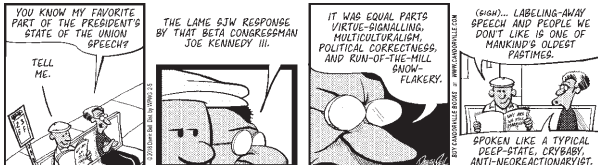
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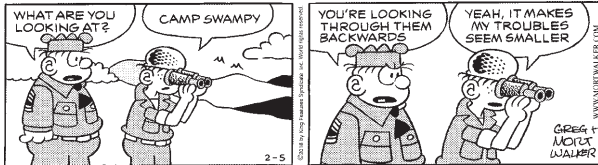
Candorville



Carpe Diem



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Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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ACROSS

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- 5 Turf
- 8 Apple tablet
- 12 New Year's Eve shower
- 14 Fizzy drink
- 15 Carpenters' collections
- 16 Authentic
- 17 Likely
- 18 Cool and damp
- 20 Call from a nursery
- 23 Jubilation
- 24 Theater award
- 25 Plays the flute
- 28 Goose egg
- 29 Banquet
- 30 "CSI" find
- 32 Not in time
- 34 First son
- 35 Eyeglass frames
- 36 Musical pace
- 37 Handbag handles
- 40 — Diego
- 41 King of the jungle
- 42 Feet, stangily
- 47 Sick as —
- 48 Wears out
- 49 Seeger or Sampras

DOWN

- 1 Do something
- 2 Brit's restroom
- 3 L-P link
- 4 Burning
- 5 Undo a dele
- 6 Mel of baseball
- 7 Reveal
- 8 Tel Aviv's land
- 9 Wordsworth work
- 10 Father of 34-Across
- 11 Actress Tyne
- 13 Catch sight of
- 19 Riga native
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- 21 Last writes?
- 22 Venus de —
- 23 Bearded farm animals
- 25 Trucker in a union
- 26 Wax-coated cheese
- 27 Use scissors
- 29 Coin toss
- 31 Year in Acapulco
- 33 Yam color
- 34 Population count
- 36 "Toodles-oo!"
- 37 High-five sound
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- 40 Manhattan area
- 43 Kitchen gadget brand
- 44 AOL, for one
- 45 Greek vowel
- 46 Bygone jet

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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CRYPTOQUIP

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O D E J S K U X O U B H U F J H,
G M X G T E O X K O E E W : O
X U S T V H X O .

Saturday's Cryptquip: I WON'T BE DATING ANYBODY WHO'S ATTRACTIVE BUT SNOBBISH. I'VE NO INTEREST IN A HAUGHTY HOTTIE.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: X equals R


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COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Struggling St. John's stuns No. 4 Duke

Associated Press

NEW YORK — That's two losses in three games for No. 4 Duke — and this one to a team that hadn't won since Christmas.

No wonder coach Mike Krzyzewski called it a "disgusting" performance.

Shamorie Ponds scored 33 points and St. John's stunned the Blue Devils 81-77 at Madison Square Garden on Saturday, snapping an 11-game losing streak and handing a suddenly suspect Duke squad its second defeat in eight days.

"We got what we deserved," Krzyzewski said. "We weren't able to knock them out after we lost the first 12 rounds of a 15-round fight."

Bashir Ahmed added 19 points and Tariq Owens had 17 for the Red Storm (11-13), who overcame an early 10-point deficit and fought off Duke's heralded freshmen down the stretch in their biggest victory under third-year coach Chris Mullin.

It was the first win for St. John's since Dec. 20 against Saint Joseph's.

"We would have taken a win if it was in an empty gym," Mullin said. "Thank God January is over."

St. John's was playing the season's three straight games against top-6 opponents in a span of nine days. Next up, a visit to No. 1 Villanova on Wednesday night.

"We are happy but we can't stop here. We have to keep pushing," said Ponds, a sophomore guard. "This is big to get a win on the board. We can start fresh."

Gary Trent Jr. had 22 points for the Blue Devils (19-4), who perhaps got caught looking ahead to their first matchup of the season with bitter rival North Carolina on Thursday night.

Krzyzewski didn't think so. "Ponds was really as good a guard offensively as we've played against," Coach K said. "We came in prepared."

Freshman sensation Marvin Bagley III scored 19 for Duke but saw no significant chunk of the second half with four fouls. Wendell Carter Jr. added 14 points and 15 rebounds.

Outlasted all afternoon, Duke was coming off an easy win Monday over Notre Dame that followed a 65-63 loss at home to No. 2 Virginia last weekend.

"I thought they made us look bad, but we made ourselves look bad. We did not play basketball the first 32 minutes worthy of our program. And we had blank faces, we didn't talk, we were like five individuals out there and it was disgusting, really," Krzyzewski said. "I do not know why I can tell you that's not the group I've coached all year, and they were a very frustrating group that coach today because they didn't respond to anything until the last eight minutes and that's unacceptable."

No. 2 Virginia 59, Syracuse 44: Andre Hunter scored 15 points, Kyle Guy added 14

and visiting Virginia smothered struggling Syracuse.

Virginia (22-1, 11-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), which beat the Orange 68-61 in January, has won 14 straight and is off to its best start in conference play since the days of Ralph Sampson, who led the 1980-81 team to a 12-0 start.

No. 3 Purdue 78, Rutgers 76: Vincent Edwards had 18 points, seven rebounds and eight assists, and visiting Purdue held on for a school-record 19th straight win.

Mathis Dakota scored 16 points, Carsen Edwards had 13 and P.J. Thompson added 12 points for the Boilermakers (23-2, 12-0 Big Ten).

No. 5 Michigan State 63, Indiana 60: Matt McQuaid scored 12 points and made the decisive three-pointer with 1:08 to play for visiting Michigan State.

The Spartans (22-3, 10-2 Big Ten) have won six straight to stay two games behind Purdue in the conference title chase.

No. 6 Xavier 96, Georgetown 91: Trevon Bluiett had a season-high 31 points, including a four-point play that tied it late in regulation, and host Xavier never trailed in overtime.

The Musketeers (21-3, 9-2 Big East) made all of their 10 free throws in overtime, including four by Tyrrique Jones, as they remained unbeaten in 15 home games this season. Bluiett's two foul shots clinched it with 10 seconds left.

Oklahoma State 84, No. 7 Kansas 79: Kendall Smith scored 24 points, including the clinching free throws in the final seconds, and visiting Oklahoma State held on for the upset.

Cameron McGriff added 20 points and Jeffrey Carroll had 15 for the Cowboys (14-9, 4-6 Big 12), who built an 18-point first-half lead and dominated the boards in ending their three-game losing streak.

No. 8 Cincinnati 65, UConn 57: Jacob Evans III scored 19 points to lead visiting Cincinnati past the struggling Huskies.

Kyle Washington added 13 points and 11 rebounds for the Bearcats (21-2, 10-0 American), who never trailed.

Washington 78, No. 9 Arizona 75: Dominic Green collected a loose ball in the final seconds and made a three-pointer at the buzzer to give host Washington the victory.

Washington went to freshman Jaylen Nowell with the clock winding down, but his shot was blocked by Arizona star Deandre Ayton. Green grabbed the swatted shot near the Washington bench and beat the buzzer with his fourth three-pointer of the game.

No. 10 Texas Tech 83, TCU 71: Jarrett Culver scored 20 points with four three-pointers, and Texas Tech got its fourth straight victory and a share of the Big 12 Conference lead.

No. 11 Auburn 93, Vanderbilt 81: Bryce Brown scored 25 points and Mustapha Heron



ANDRES KUDACKI/AP

St. John's Tariq Owens, center, and Justin Simon, left, battle for position with Duke's Wendell Carter, Jr. during the second half Saturday at Madison Square Garden in New York.

had 23 to lead hot-shooting host Auburn.

The two high-scoring guards alternated taking over for the Tigers (21-2, 9-1 Southeastern Conference) in the second half.

Texas 79, No. 12 Oklahoma 74: Matt Coleman scored 22 points, leading a big second-half rally before his late free throws helped secure the win over visiting Oklahoma and freshman star Treve Young.

No. 13 Saint Mary's 65, San Diego 62: Jock Landale had 34 points and tied his season high with 18 rebounds — he had a double-double by halftime — and visiting Saint Mary's extended its school-record winning streak to 18.

The Gaels (23-2, 12-0 West Coast Conference) have made the nation's second-longest winning string. No. 3 Purdue won its 19th straight on Saturday, 78-76 at Rutgers.

No. 14 Gonzaga 68, BYU 60: Rui Hachimura scored 15 points, Josh Perkins added 14 and Gonzaga edged visiting BYU for its fifth win in a row.

No. 15 West Virginia 89, Kansas State 51: Sagaba Konate scored 19 points and host West Virginia ended a three-game losing streak.

No. 18 Tennessee 94, Mississippi 61: Grant Williams and Lamonte Turner scored 17 points each to lead five Tennessee players in double figures as the host Volunteers won their fifth straight.

No. 19 North Carolina 96, Pittsburgh 65: Luke Maye scored 26 points to help host North Carolina end its first three-game losing streak in four years.

No. 20 Clemson 75, Wake Forest 67: Gabe DeVoe scored 24 points to lead visiting Clemson.

Missouri 69, No. 21 Kentucky 60: Host Missouri had never beaten Kentucky in 10 previous tries, but behind 16 points each from Jordan Barnett and Kassius Robertson, the Tigers finally cleared that Big Blue hurdle.

Alabama 68, No. 23 Florida 50: Collin Sexton scored 17 points, Donta Hall notched his fourth double-double of the season, and visiting Alabama rallied from a 10-point deficit for the upset.

No. 24 Michigan 76, Minnesota 73 (OT): Muhammad-Ali

Abdur-Rahkman made a tie-breaking three-point play with 3.8 seconds left and finished with 17 points as host Michigan held on in overtime.

San Diego State 81, Air Force 50: Jalen McDaniels had 16 points, on 7-for-10 shooting, and 13 rebounds to help host San Diego State.

Army 82, American 70: Matthew Wilson scored 14 points and led five players in double-figure scoring and host Army beat American University, snapping a three-game slide.

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HIGH SCHOOL: DODEA EUROPE



MICHAEL B. KELLER/Stars and Stripes

Stuttgart's Callum Funk checks his shot placement during the DODEA Europe marksmanship championship at Vogelweh, Germany, on Saturday. Funk was the top overall shooter spot with 574 points.

Stuttgart maintains marksmanship rule

BY GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The Stuttgart Panthers' marksmanship dynasty faces an uncertain future. No such uncertainty was apparent Saturday, however.

The Panthers claimed their fifth straight DODEA Europe marksmanship championship Saturday at Kaiserslautern High School, easily outshooting the five rival programs gathered for the first championship event of the 2018 DODEA Europe athletics calendar.

The senior-heavy Stuttgart squad went through its processes methodically and confidently, and ended the day hoarding its customary haul of collective and individual trophies. The Panthers' dominance was total, as the team's four qualifying shooters claimed the top four individual spots in the meet.

Senior Callum Funk shot a 574 overall for a first-place finish. Sophomore Isabelle Ploechinger finished a close runner-up at 572. Seniors Eileen Dickinson and Fallon Dickinson turned in matching scores of 568 to complete the Stuttgart sweep at the top.

Funk was consistently excellent across all three shooting positions, including a 189-point kneeling total, 195 prone and a meet-high 190 standing. The cumulative total added up to more than even Funk, the season-long frontrunner in DODEA Europe, expected of himself. The senior said he "was trying to aim for over 570," and was thrilled to check in comfortably above that threshold.

"It came together today," Funk said. Funk came into the meet with a proverbial target on his back after a dominant winter, and admitted thinking he could "only lose ground" as the favorite entering the finals. So he turned his focus to his team, and the fact that he felt "obligated" to perform well to deliver another title on his way out.

"Luckily it turned out well in my favor," Funk said.

Vilecek junior Mikaela Motherwell finished first in the non-Stuttgart division of the event, registering a total of 567 for a solid fifth-place showing that included a

meet-best score of 196 in prone position.

Motherwell said that she's moving back stateside just days after the match. And while she's usually nervous before meets, the Falcon captain explained that her upcoming PCS actually eased rather than added to her anxiety on Saturday.

"The excitement of today really overpowered the nervousness," Motherwell said. "I guess it's the fact that it's my last match and I wanted to make the most of it. I kept telling myself that I don't have to get first place or anything, I can just try to place my best and try to make the most out of my last match."

Despite Motherwell's strong showing, Vilecek dipped from its runner-up team finish of a year ago to fourth place this year. Wiesbaden seized on the opportunity, edging host Kaiserslautern for second place. Both teams finished with 2,196 points; the Warriors claimed the tiebreaker with 73 bulleyes to the Raiders' 66.

Both the Warriors and Raiders placed two shooters in the top 10, led by sixth-place finisher Victoria Jackson of Kaiserslautern with 562. The Raiders' senior leader rounded out her impressive DODEA-Europe career with a rousing performance in the post-meet standing shootout that capped the day.

"I could see she had a lot of natural talent right away, and she got better and better through the years," Kaiserslautern coach Robert Meyer said of Jackson's three-year tenure with the program. "She's been great."

While other teams enjoyed memorable moments, the event again belonged to coach Raul Pinon and the Panthers. But with four outgoing seniors, the reigning champions might be vulnerable to future challenges in a way they decidedly weren't on Saturday. Whatever happens after they leave, the program's graduating group, including Funk, the Dickinsons and Macy Kimball, has left a legacy in Stuttgart.

"We've been together for a long time and it's been the same core group of people," Funk said.

"Not only are we good teammates, but we're good friends."

Not to mention excellent shooters.

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE WEEKEND

Lakenheath, Ramstein, Aviano look prepared for wrestling sectionals

Stars and Stripes

Aviano, Lakenheath and Ramstein are scheduled to host DODEA Europe wrestling sectional qualifiers on Saturday. This past Saturday, the three schools proved they're ready for that responsibility.

Each of the postseason hosts recorded solid victories in the three meets conducted on the last day of the regular season. Aviano bested its Italian neighbors at Naples, Ramstein outscored reigning Division I champion Stuttgart, among many others, in a huge home meet and Lakenheath routed its northern rivals in a seven-school meet at Brussels.

Seven Saints placed first in their weight class to power Aviano to a 21-point edge over the host Wildcats. Jacob Gamboa emerged from a deep 138-pound bracket as Aviano swept all five classes between 120 and 145.

Ramstein flashed its postseason readiness with a triumph among Division I rivals Kaiserslautern, Vilecek and Wiesbaden along with the reigning Panthers. The robust Royal roster landed 20 wrestlers in top-four spots Saturday.

Lakenheath, meanwhile, was the clear powerhouse in a smaller meet in Belgium. Four Lancers took first place, including Kyle Boren in a relatively crowded 120-pound bracket.

Alconbury: The outmanned Dragons held their own in the seven-team wrestling meet at Brussels on Saturday. Joe Siegrist (62 pounds) and Demetrius Wilson (182) delivered weight-class wins for the Division II squad.

AFNORTH: The Lions boys basketball duo of Luke Priestman and David Mitchell scored 25 and 21 points, respectively, in a 67-51 defeat of Ansbach on Friday. Their profile scoring continued Saturday as Mitchell scored 24 and Priestman added 21 in a 75-71 loss.

American Overseas School of Rome: The Falcons were more than just hosts of this weekend's Division II girls basketball meet; they were also its breakout team. AOSR earned its first two wins of the season, beating Aviano 30-24 on Friday and Spangdahlem 37-33 on Saturday.

Ansbach: Boys basketball star Kevin Kamara powered the Cougars to a 75-71 victory over AFNORTH on Saturday with one of the most dynamic offensive performances of the DODEA Europe season. Kamara scored 42 points in the victory, a day after notching 38 in a loss to the Lions.

Baumholder: The Bucs picked up their first girls basketball victory of the season Friday night, then turned it into a streak the next day. Baumholder edged host Alconbury 27-23 on Friday and 18-12 on Saturday.

Black Forest Academy: The Falcons were idle in basketball for the last time over the weekend. BFA, defending Division II champions on both the boys and girls sides, play Division I opponents Vilecek and Ramstein before the tournament.

Brussels: The Brigands finished a solid runner-up in the northern wrestling meet they hosted Saturday. Three Brussels grapplers took first place in their respective weight classes as the home team piled up 116 points and claimed second place behind Division I Lakenheath.

Hohenfels: The Tigers get a bye week to recuperate from their hard-fought basketball losses to Division I Stuttgart on Friday and Saturday, then it's back to the Division III grid for the remainder of the winter. Hohenfels faces divisional rival Ansbach to close the regular season, before the small-school tournament.

Kaiserslautern: The Raiders will grid up for what they hope are lengthy Division I basketball tournament runs with a set of tough games down the stretch of the regular season. Kaiserslautern hosts Stuttgart for a set this weekend then visits Wiesbaden on Feb. 16.

Naples: The Wildcats took second place in their home wrestling meet Saturday behind a strong contingent of top finishers. Nine Naples wrestlers finished first or second in their weight class, including Nick Clarda with a win in the rugged 195-pound bracket.

Rota: The Admirals have two more dates on their light DODEA Europe regular-season basketball schedule. Rota hosts Division II rival Marymount on Feb. 16-17.

Sigonella: The Jaguars picked up a quality win on Saturday with a 59-50 defeat of Division I Naples, part of a weekend split with the Wildcats. Isaac Griswold and Alex Ogletree produced double-doubles in Saturday's victory.

Spangdahlem: The Sentinels strengthened their position atop the Division II boys basketball standings with a pair of hard-earned victories in Rome on Saturday. Spangdahlem used a fourth-quarter surge to put away Aviano 59-44, then edged the host Falcons 61-56 with another late push.

Stuttgart: In addition to winning another marksmanship championship, the Panthers spent the weekend sweeping Division III Hohenfels in boys and girls basketball. Now it's all large-school hoops action for Stuttgart for the duration, as the team will take on Kaiserslautern and Vilecek ahead of the European tournament in Wiesbaden.

SHAPE: The Spartans play host to the final multiple-team basketball meet of the regular season on Feb. 16 and 17. Regional opponents Alconbury and Lakenheath are on hand for the finale festivities.

Vicenza: Though they finished third, the Cougars were fiercely competitive in a solid 90-point showing in Wiesbaden's wrestling meet at Napoli. Ethan Johnston continued his strong season with a first-place finish at 182 pounds.

Vilecek: The Falcons girls basketball team continued its late-season surge with a sweep of Wiesbaden on Friday and Saturday. Tynnisia Wilson totaled 22 points and 11 rebounds in Friday's 27-18 win and Tejada Marshall had 22 points, nine rebounds and six blocks in Saturday's 38-18 victory.

Wiesbaden: The Warriors shook off their first loss of the boys basketball season with a pair of sizeable wins at Vilecek. A dominant first half fueled Friday's 83-65 victory, while an overwhelming second half secured a 64-42 win and a sweep on Saturday.

HIGH SCHOOL: FAR EAST WRESTLING

Kinnick, Yokota claim both team titles

By DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Kinnick and Yokota made the Far East wrestling tournament their own awards ceremonies as both Kanto Plain schools won the individual tournament and dual-meet titles.

The Red Devils edged St. Mary's in both Division I events, getting the decisive win from 215-pounder Chris Mason to pull out a dual-meet win 30-28 on Saturday. That followed Friday's individual tournament in which a school record six Kinnick wrestlers won titles. That enabled the Red Devils to hold off St. Mary's in the team standings 99-94. Kubasaki was third with 66 points.

It was the first time Kinnick swept the individual and dual-meet banners since 2001, and is the first time coach Gary Wilson had accomplished the feat.

"It's just crazy," Wilson said. "Of course, it had to be against St. Mary's. We've been on the other side the last two years. But to win both is ... I'm speechless."

"What a year," said Lucas Wirth, who got a late four-point throw on St. Mary's Rio Lemkul on route to a 9-5 win and the 129-pound individual title and then started a comeback from a 15-3 defeat in the dual-meet final with a pin in 1:32 of Lemkul. "Nice way to go out, taking everything."

Devoney Stanley (135), Mason Smith (149), Mason Smith (148), Kameron Leon Guerrero (168) and Chris Mason joined Wirth as individual champions from Kinnick.

Yokota was not challenged for the Division II dual-meet crown on Saturday, as eight Panthers won by pin in a 55-10 victory over Perry.

The individual tournament title on Friday was much closer. Yokota edged Perry 36-33. Humphreys was third with 20 points followed by Edgren with 19.

"They are phenomenal," first-year Panthers coach Kristina O'Grady said of her wrestlers, giving credit to an assistant coaching staff led by James Cunningham for the titles. "They work hard, they put forth the effort. And they have fun. They have a good time."

Caleb Heino, one of the eight Panthers to win by pin in the dual-meet final, also won an individual title. The sophomore 101-pounder, wasted little time getting a head-and-arm hold on Kinnick's John Lanzilotta for a pin in 32 seconds of the championship match.

Chris DeGrella (108), Joey DeGrella (122), Ramil Celones (129), Kyle Easterwood (135), Gabriel Aragon (141), Austin Fisher (180) and Cameron Ewens (215) also scored pins against Perry.

Andrew Borrero (158) and Marshall China (heavyweight) scored pinfall victories for the Samurai. Still, finishing second was much better than taking ninth place the year before for the Samurai.

"We're on our way," Perry coach Chris Munsell said.

China became the first individual champion for Perry as a full-fledged wrestler program. The sophomore heavyweight outlasted Yokota's Jalen Harrison, pinning him in 4:03 on Friday.

Craig Bell won a title 10 years ago, but Perry did not have a wrestling program at the time.

Hunter Lane of Daegu was voted by the coaches the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler for the second straight year.

Lane fashioned a 9-2 decision over Kinnick's Darius Swenson that was closer than the score indicated. Lane said,

"I like going up against guys like him," said Lane, who exits Far East with two championships and two second-place finishes. "It's no fun if it's easy."

The Red Devils' D-I dual-meet final with the Titans proved to be nip-and-tuck from start to finish, coming down to the 215-pound bout, the next-to-last.

In a duel in which points seemed to come painfully slowly, Mason rallied from an early 2-0 deficit to edge St. Mary's Nilay Hingarh to rally the Red Devils to within 28-25.

The Titans did not have a heavyweight, giving Kinnick's Cameron Joley a win by walk-over and the two-point victory. St. Mary's was being going for a Far East first, winning one of the two team banners for five straight years.

"I just knew I had to win. They [teammates] told me I had



VANESSA BADIOLA/Special to Stars and Stripes

Kinnick's Lucas Wirth gains control of St. Mary's Rio Lemkul at 129 pounds in Saturday's dual-meet final.

Scoreboard

Individual tournament
Friday at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan
Division I
Kinnick 99, St. Mary's 94, Kubasaki 66, American School in Japan 36, Kadena 24, Seoul American 11.

Division II
Yokota 36, Perry 33, Humphreys 20, Edgren 19, Osan 15, Christian Academy Japan 14, Daegu 12, E.J. King 7, Zama 0.

101
Fifth place — Marcus Irons, Perry, tech, Tiana Marsh, Edgren, 10-0, 2:19.
Third place — Jasot Bedi, St. Mary's, pin, Noah Vazquez, Kubasaki, 2:11.
Championship — Caleb Heino, Yokota, pin, John Lanzilotta, Kinnick, 32.

108
Fifth place — Grant Wilcox, Kubasaki, pin, Jeffre Arceo, Kinnick, 3:59.
Third place — Jose Frazier, CAJ, pin, Chris DeGrella, Yokota, 40.
Championship — Eiji Kasahara, St. Mary's, pin, Ryan Rogers, Kadena, 4:27.

115
Fifth place — Ira Kadet, ASU, tech, Ty White, Seoul, 12-1, 1:57.
Third place — Jordan Van Druff, CAJ, pin, Sam Lister, Humphreys, 3:59.
Championship — Luis Veliz, Kubasaki, pin, Harold Mancía, St. Mary's, 4:33.

129
Fifth place — Jaylan Mayers, Kubasaki, pin, Steven Petracca, Seoul, 25.
Third place — Kalel Wallace, Kadena, pin, Ben Lister, Humphreys, 45.
Championship — Kojiro Vantoose, Osan, pin, Tatsuhito Matsumoto, St. Mary's, 3:53.

135
Fifth place — James Carpenter, Kubasaki, tech, Egan Sadler, ASU, 15-5, 5:57.
Third place — Raphael Gomez, Edgren, pin, Demetrio Delarosa, Kadena, 46.
Championship — Lucas Wirth, Kinnick, dec, Rio Lemkul, St. Mary's, 9-5.

158
Fifth place — Levi Kirk, Edgren, pin, Kyle Easterwood, Yokota, 36.
Third place — Connor Brennan, Kubasaki, tech, Bryon Williams, Perry, 10-0, 1:00.

168
Championship — Devoney Stanley, Kinnick, tech, Dai Matsumoto, St. Mary's, 11-1, 3:08.

141
Fifth place — Juan Mejia, Kadena, pin, Gabriel Aragon, Yokota, 3:27.
Third place — Logan Lumabasi, King, pin, Jihoon Seo, St. Mary's, 3:53.
Championship — Mason Smith, Kinnick, dec, Rin Zook, ASU, 14-13.

148
Fifth place — Marcus Inthavixay, Osan, pin, Kieren Kell, 2:49.
Third place — Luke Mosley, Kubasaki, pin, Mason Graydon, Perry, 1:06.
Championship — Jacob Castro, Kinnick, tech, Nishant Chandra, 13-2, 3:00.
Second-place wrestler — Mosley tech, Chandra, 12-2, 2:25.

158
Fifth place — Ryo Sawa, St. Mary's, tech, Jacob McConnell, 12-2, 2:12.
Third place — Andrew Borrero, Edgren, dec, Devin Rix, Humphreys, 12-5.
Championship — Hunter Lane, Daegu, dec, Darius Swenson, Kinnick, 9-2.
Second-place wrestler — Swenson tech, Borrero 10-0 big points, 3:00.

160
Fifth place — Alex Alexander, Yokota, tech, Ethan Cecil, Perry, 10-0, 1:36.
Third place — Zenon Sadler, ASU, dec, Cameron Joley, Kinnick, 4-3.
Championship — Kameron Leon Guerrero, Kinnick, pin, Austin Koslow, St. Mary's, 5:52.

160
Fifth place — Tyler Ryer, Kinnick, dec, Brian Cho, Seoul, 6-0.
Third place — Jason Dudley, Edgren, dec, Erich Gries, Humphreys, 11-8.
Championship — Alex Patton, St. Mary's, tech, Nick Burwell, Kubasaki, 10-0, 3:49.

215
Fifth place — Nilay Hingarh, St. Mary's, dec, Chase Quigley, Edgren, 3-0.
Third place — Cameron Ewens, Yokota, pin, Haydn Peterson, Kubasaki, 1:24.
Championship — Chris Mason, Kinnick, dec, Noah Decker, ASU, 4-0.

Heavyweight
Fifth place — Xavier Thorpe, Seoul, by walkover.
Third place — Mehdi Neill-Garcia, Kubasaki, pin, Cameron Joley, Kinnick, 5:56.
Championship — Marshall China, Perry, pin, Jalen Harrison, Yokota, 4:04.
Second-place wrestler — Neill-Garcia pin, Harrison, 4:03.

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NBA



TONY DEAN/AP

The Cavaliers' LeBron James, right, drives against the Rockets' Luc Mbah a Moute in the first half Saturday in Cleveland.

Roundup

Rockets humiliate James, Cavaliers

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — As hamed to show his face any longer, LeBron James stared at the floor as he headed toward the locker room before the final horn sounded.

An inglorious exit. The Cavaliers have become an embarrassment.

"I'm lost for words," James said after Cleveland was humiliated by the Houston Rockets, who rained down 19 three-pointers to the disconnected Cavaliers in a 120-88 blowout on Saturday night.

Chris Paul scored 22 points with 11 assists, Ryan Anderson added 21 points and the long-range Rockets became the latest team to manhandle the Cavaliers on national TV.

"They should take us off every nationally televised game for the rest of the season," said James, who spoke softly with a baseball cap pulled over his eyes. "We haven't played good at all and we get our butts kicked every time we play on national television, so I'm at a loss for words."

James Harden only scored 16 — 15 below his league-leading average — but Houston rolled to its fourth straight win and improved to 11-2 since Jan. 8.

Meanwhile, the Cavs' downward spiral accelerated.

Since losing at Golden State on Christmas, James and his teammates are 0-8 in network broadcasts and have been embarrassed in several matchups against quality teams. They lost by 28 at Minnesota, 34 in Toronto, 24 at home to Oklahoma City and 32 to the Rockets, who toyed with the defending Eastern Conference champs.

Following the game, Cavs coach Tyronn Lee was asked if his team tired.

"Don't look like it," Lee said. "We didn't have no fight. I thought

they took the game to us on both ends."

Nuggets 115, Warriors 108: Nikola Jokic scored 19 points, including a go-ahead three-pointer with 2:10 left, and added nine rebounds for host Denver.

Will Barton had 25 points and Gary Harris 16 for the Nuggets, who split the four games with Golden State this season. Denver rallied from 12 down in the second half to hand the Warriors their second loss in three games.

Pistons 111, Heat 107: Andre Drummond had 23 points and 20 rebounds, and Blake Griffin made a key three-pointer in the final minute to lift host Detroit over Miami.

Pacers 100, 76ers 92: Victor Oladipo and Bojan Bogdanovic each scored 19 points and host Indiana beat Philadelphia.

Wizards 115, Magic 98: Otto Porter scored 20 points and Tomas Satoransky had a career-high 19 to lift Washington over Orlando.

Timberwolves 118, Pelicans 107: Jimmy Butler scored 30 points, Karl-Anthony Towns had 22 points and 16 rebounds for their league-leading 47th double-doubling, and host Minnesota beat New Orleans.

Jazz 120, Spurs 111: Ricky Rubio scored a season-high 34 points and added nine assists, and Utah upended host San Antonio for its fifth straight victory.

Mavericks 106, Kings 99: Yogi Ferrell made consecutive three-pointers to spark a big run at the start of the fourth quarter and Dallas beat host Sacramento to snap a five-game losing streak.

Nuggets 113, Bulls 103: Tobias Harris scored 24 points in his Clippers debut, leading host Los Angeles over Chicago.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	35	15	.717	—
Toronto	35	16	.686	2
Philadelphia	25	26	.500	13½
New York	23	30	.434	15
Brooklyn	19	34	.354	19

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	30	22	.577	—
Miami	29	24	.547	1½
Charlotte	22	29	.431	7½
Orlando	19	32	.375	10
Atlanta	15	37	.288	15

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	30	21	.588	—
Indiana	30	24	.556	1½
Milwaukee	28	23	.549	2
Detroit	25	26	.490	5
Chicago	24	34	.412	12½

Western Conference

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	38	13	.745	—
San Antonio	34	21	.616	6
New Orleans	28	24	.538	10½
Portland	23	29	.442	16
Dallas	17	36	.321	22

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	30	23	.566	2½
Oklahoma City	29	23	.558	3
Denver	28	25	.528	4½
Utah	23	29	.442	11

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	31	17	.774	—
L.A. Clippers	26	25	.510	14
L.A. Lakers	20	31	.392	20
Phoenix	18	33	.350	23
Sacramento	16	36	.308	24½

Saturday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers 113, Chicago 103	31	17	.774	—
Indiana 100, Philadelphia 92	30	24	.556	1½
Washington 115, Orlando 98	30	24	.556	1½
Houston 120, Cleveland 88	38	13	.745	—
Denver 115, Golden State 108	30	24	.556	1½
Minnesota 118, New Orleans 107	29	24	.556	2
Utah 120, San Antonio 111	34	21	.616	6
Dallas 106, Sacramento 99	17	36	.321	22

Sunday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta at New York	31	17	.774	—
Oklahoma City at Toronto	30	23	.566	2½
Milwaukee at Brooklyn	28	23	.549	2
Portland at Boston	23	29	.442	11
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City	20	31	.392	20
Charlotte at Phoenix	19	32	.375	10

Monday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland at Indiana	23	29	.442	11
Washington at Atlanta	30	24	.556	1½
Oklahoma City at Miami	29	23	.558	3
Charlotte at Denver	22	29	.431	7½
Phoenix at Sacramento	16	36	.308	24½
Dallas at L.A. Clippers	17	36	.321	22

Tuesday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland at Orlando	30	24	.556	1½
Boston at Toronto	31	17	.774	—
Houston at Brooklyn	38	13	.745	—
Memphis at Atlanta	28	23	.549	2
Washington at New York	30	24	.556	1½
Philadelphia at Phoenix	19	32	.375	10
San Antonio at Dallas	34	21	.616	6

Wednesday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland at Indiana	23	29	.442	11
Washington at Atlanta	30	24	.556	1½
Oklahoma City at Miami	29	23	.558	3
Charlotte at Denver	22	29	.431	7½
Phoenix at Sacramento	16	36	.308	24½
Dallas at L.A. Clippers	17	36	.321	22

Thursday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland at Indiana	23	29	.442	11
Washington at Atlanta	30	24	.556	1½
Oklahoma City at Miami	29	23	.558	3
Charlotte at Denver	22	29	.431	7½
Phoenix at Sacramento	16	36	.308	24½
Dallas at L.A. Clippers	17	36	.321	22

Friday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland at Indiana	23	29	.442	11
Washington at Atlanta	30	24	.556	1½
Oklahoma City at Miami	29	23	.558	3
Charlotte at Denver	22	29	.431	7½
Phoenix at Sacramento	16	36	.308	24½
Dallas at L.A. Clippers	17	36	.321	22

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Tuesday's Games

	W	L	Pct	GB
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JIM MONROE/AP

Timberwolves' Jeff Teague, left, drives around the Pelicans' Dante Cunningham in the first half Saturday in Minneapolis.

Jazz 120, Spurs 111

UTAH — Ingle 3-6 2-2 10, Favors 6-11 2-14, Gobert 3-7 5-7 11, Rubio 11-14 9-10, Burks 3-10 1-2 8, O'Neale 7-2 2-18, Jerebko 1-1 2-4, Udoh 1-1 2-4, Neto 3-7 6-12, Mitchell 0-0 0-0, Hood 2-5 0-0 5. Totals 39-69 30-36 120.

SAN ANTONIO — Anderson 4-6 0-0 9, Aldridge 12-19 6-8 31, Bertans 2-7 2-3 8, Murray 5-12 0-0 10, Green 3-8 0-0 5, Hilliard 0-0 0-0 0, Lauvergne 0-0 0-0 0, Gasol 3-8 2-8, Parker 5-9 1-2 11, Mills 4-6 0-0 11, Forbes 1-5 0-2, Ginobili 0-9 2-13. Totals 34-61 13-18 111.

UTAH — Ingle 3-6 2-2 10, Favors 6-11 2-14, Gobert 3-7 5-7 11, Rubio 11-14 9-10, Burks 3-10 1-2 8, O'Neale 7-2 2-18, Jerebko 1-1 2-4, Udoh 1-1 2-4, Neto 3-7 6-12, Mitchell 0-0 0-0, Hood 2-5 0-0 5. Totals 39-69 30-36 120.

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Cavaliers 118, Pelicans 107

NEW ORLEANS — James 3-14 2-22 Cunningham 2-6 0-0 5, Davis 16-0 5-8 38, Rondo 4-6 0-0 9, Holiday 3-13 3-3 18, Miller 2-4 0-5, Diallo 3-8 4-10, Mitrovic 6-13 5-18, James 1-4 0-2, Clark 4-12 0-9, Cooke 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 42-101 15-17 107.

MINNESOTA — Towns 7-14 0-0 15, Gibson 6-0 0-0 2, Higgins 7-16 3-4 22, League 2-7 0-0 5, Butler 11-21 6-20, Georges-Hunt 0-0 0-0 0, Bjelica 2-5 0-5, Deng 3-5 0-6 6, Jones 6-9 1-5, Brooks 0-0 0-0 0, Crawford 3-9 1-8 1. Totals 48-95 11-21 107.

NEW ORLEANS — James 3-14 2-22 Cunningham 2-6 0-0 5, Davis 16-0 5-8 38, Rondo 4-6 0-0 9, Holiday 3-13 3-3 18, Miller 2-4 0-5, Diallo 3-8 4-10, Mitrovic 6-13 5-18, James 1-4 0-2, Clark 4-12 0-9, Cooke 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 42-101 15-17 107.

MINNESOTA — Towns 7-14 0-0 15, Gibson 6-0 0-0 2, Higgins 7-16 3-4 22, League 2-7 0-0 5, Butler 11-21 6-20, Georges

NHL

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division									
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Tampa Bay	32	16	13	5	75	187	134		
Boston	50	31	11	6	70	264	121		
Florida	30	19	8	6	60	161	121		
Carolina	50	22	22	6	60	143	161		
Detroit	51	21	22	6	50	134	153		
Norfolk	52	22	25	6	48	135	163		
Ottawa	50	17	24	9	43	137	171		
Buffalo	52	12	29	29	37	117	172		
Metropolitan Division									
Washington	51	30	16	5	65	199	148		
New Jersey	51	27	19	5	62	154	151		
Pittsburgh	54	29	22	6	61	164	162		
Philadelphia	51	27	21	7	58	177	156		
N.Y. Islanders	54	24	19	9	57	150	154		
N.Y. Rangers	53	26	22	5	57	172	192		
Carolina	51	28	19	8	56	142	159		
N.Y. Rangers	52	25	22	5	55	155	160		

Western Conference

Central Division									
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Winnipeg	53	33	13	7	71	172	140		
Nashville	50	31	12	7	69	156	127		
St. Louis	54	30	19	7	67	153	134		
Chicago	53	30	19	4	64	105	139		
Minnesota	52	28	19	5	61	153	150		
Colorado	51	28	19	4	60	164	148		
Chicago	52	24	20	8	56	133	155		
Pacific Division									
Vegas	51	34	13	5	72	173	147		
San Jose	51	27	16	8	62	149	131		
Los Angeles	52	26	18	5	61	148	125		
Calgary	52	26	18	8	60	147	149		
Edmonton	52	26	18	5	58	147	149		
Vancouver	52	21	25	6	48	137	168		
Arizona	52	21	25	9	43	139	173		

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss, top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Friday's games

Pittsburgh 7, Washington 4
Detroit 4, Carolina 1
San Jose 3, Columbus 1
Minnesota 5, Vegas 2

Saturday's games

Ottawa 4, Philadelphia 3, SO
Montreal 5, Anaheim 2
Florida 3, Pittsburgh 2
St. Louis 1, Buffalo 0

Sunday's games

N.Y. Islanders 4, Columbus 3
Calgary 4, Montreal 3
Boston 4, Toronto 1
N.Y. Rangers 2, Dallas 6
Minnesota 1, Tampa Bay 4
Vancouver 2, Chicago 3
OT
Los Angeles 6, Arizona 0

Monday's games

Anaheim 7, Toronto 1
Nashville 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
N.Y. Rangers 4, Dallas 6
Tampa Bay 4, Edmonton 2

Tuesday's games

Vegas at Pittsburgh
Anaheim at Buffalo
Philadelphia at Columbus
Philadelphia at Carolina
New Jersey at Ottawa
Detroit at Pittsburgh
Vancouver at Florida
Minnesota at St. Louis
Arizona at Winnipeg
Calgary at Chicago
St. Louis at Colorado

Wednesday's games

Chicago 1, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Islanders 4, Carolina 1
Dallas 6, Minnesota 1
Tampa Bay 4, Vancouver 2
Chicago 3, OT
Los Angeles 6, Arizona 0

Thursday's games

Anaheim 7, Toronto 1
Nashville 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
N.Y. Rangers 4, Dallas 6
Tampa Bay 4, Edmonton 2

Friday's games

Pittsburgh 7, Washington 4
Detroit 4, Carolina 1
San Jose 3, Columbus 1
Minnesota 5, Vegas 2

Saturday's games

Ottawa 4, Philadelphia 3, SO
Montreal 5, Anaheim 2
Florida 3, Pittsburgh 2
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Sunday's games

N.Y. Islanders 4, Columbus 3
Calgary 4, Montreal 3
Boston 4, Toronto 1
N.Y. Rangers 2, Dallas 6
Minnesota 1, Tampa Bay 4
Vancouver 2, Chicago 3
OT
Los Angeles 6, Arizona 0

Monday's games

Anaheim 7, Toronto 1
Nashville 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
N.Y. Rangers 4, Dallas 6
Tampa Bay 4, Edmonton 2

Tuesday's games

Vegas at Pittsburgh
Anaheim at Buffalo
Philadelphia at Columbus
Philadelphia at Carolina
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Calgary at Chicago
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Wednesday's games

Chicago 1, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Islanders 4, Carolina 1
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Chicago 3, OT
Los Angeles 6, Arizona 0

Thursday's games

Anaheim 7, Toronto 1
Nashville 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
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Tampa Bay 4, Edmonton 2

Friday's games

Pittsburgh 7, Washington 4
Detroit 4, Carolina 1
San Jose 3, Columbus 1
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Saturday's games

Ottawa 4, Philadelphia 3, SO
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N.Y. Islanders 4, Columbus 3
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Anaheim 7, Toronto 1
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Anaheim at Buffalo
Philadelphia at Columbus
Philadelphia at Carolina
New Jersey at Ottawa
Detroit at Pittsburgh
Vancouver at Florida
Minnesota at St. Louis
Arizona at Winnipeg
Calgary at Chicago
St. Louis at Colorado

Wednesday's games

Chicago 1, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Islanders 4, Carolina 1
Dallas 6, Minnesota 1
Tampa Bay 4, Vancouver 2
Chicago 3, OT
Los Angeles 6, Arizona 0

Devils 3, Penguins 1

Pittsburgh	0	0	1-1
New Jersey	0	2	1-1

Second Period—1, New Jersey, Zajac (Noesen, Coleman), 0:30. 2, New Jersey, Coleman 6 (Zajac, Noesen), 3:05.

Third Period—3, Pittsburgh, Malkin 2 (Cole, Fassel), 6:16. 4, New Jersey, Zajac 7 (Severs, Hall), 9:51.

Shot on Goal—Pittsburgh 6-4-6—16
New Jersey 13-16—38.

Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 0 of 1; New Jersey 0 of 3.

Goalies—Pittsburgh, DeSmith 3-3-1 (38 shots-35 saves). New Jersey, Kinkaid 10-4-2 (16-15).

A—16:514 (16:514). **T**—2:29.

Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 0 of 1; New Jersey 0 of 3.

Goals—Pittsburgh, 3 (38 shots-35 saves). New Jersey, 3 (30 shots-28 saves).

A-16:514 (16:514), T-2:29.

Stars 6, Wild 1

(Klingberg, Spezza), 8:58 (pp); 2, Dallas
Johns 6, 9:37, 3, Dallas, Benn 21 (Seguin
Shore), 11:49 (pp); 4, Dallas, Seguin 25
(Benn, Radulov), 14:06.

Third Period—5, Minnesota, Zucke
21 (Sergej, Grundlund), 5:40, 6, Dallas,
Radulov 21 (Seguin), 8:05, 7, Dallas, Ham
huis 2 (Ritchie, Paterny), 16:02.

Shots on Goal—Minnesota 10-15-6
31, Dallas 9-20-9-38.

Power-play opportunities—Minnesota
0 of 2; Dallas 2 of 2.

Goalies—Minnesota, Dubnyk 20-10-
(9 shots-7 saves), Stalock 8-9-2 (29-25)
Dallas, Lehtonen 9-5-1 (31-30).

A—18,532 (18,532). **T**—2:25.

Second Period—1, Dallas, Janmark 15 (Klingberg, Sadeau), 8:58 (pp), 2, Dallas, Johns 6, 9:37, 3, Dallas, Benn 1 (Sequin, Nord), 11:49 (pp), 4, Dallas, Seguin 25 (Benn, Radulov), 14:06.

Third Period—5, Minnesota, Zucker 1 (Saurgood, Grantlund), 5:50, 6, Dallas, Radulov 21 (Sequin), 8:05, 7, Dallas, Hamer 18 (Ritchie, Pateryn), 16:02.

Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh 10-15-6-31.

Power-play opportunities—Minnesota 0 of 2; Dallas 2 of 2.

Goals—Minnesota, Dubnyk 20-10-3 (9 shots-7 saves), Skatt 8-9-2 (29-25).

A-18:532 (18:532), T-2:29.

Panthers 3, Red Wings 2

ed 25 (vanier, ekblad); 19:51.
Shots on Goal—Detroit 10-9-9=28
 Florida 10-9-4=33.
Power-play opportunities—Detroit
 of 2: Florida 6 of 3.
Goalies—Detroit, Mrazek 7-6-2 (3;
 shots-30 saves). Florida, Sateri 3-3-0 (28;
 26).
A—17,987 (19,250). **T**—3:4.

Kings 6, Coyotes 0

Arizona	0	0	0-0
Los Angeles	1	3	2-6

First Period—1. Los Angeles, Iafallo
 (Kempe, Toffoli), 7:14.
Second Period—2. Los Angeles, Lewis

First Period—1, Florida, Ekblad 10 (Yandle, Verducci), 1:14.

Second Period—2, Detroit, DeKeyser 3 (Heim, Nielsen), 8:51, 3, Dallas, Barkov 16 (Ostlund, Blomqvist), 9:38.

Third Period—4, Detroit, DeKeyser 4 (Heim, Heim), 3:00, 5, Florida, Huberdeau 18 (Yandle, Ekblad), 19:51.

Shots on Goal—Detroit 10-9-9-33.

Power-play opportunities—Detroit 0 of 2; Florida 0 of 2.

Goals—Detroit, Mrazek 7-6-2 (33 shots-30 saves). Florida, Sater 3-2-3 (23 shots-26 saves).

A-17:987 (17:987), T-2:34.

Kings 6, Coyotes 0

per 8-1-3 (27-27).
A—18,230 (18,230). **T**—2:34.

Lightning 4, Canucks 2

Tampa Bay	2	1	1-4
Vancouver	0	0	2-2

First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Kunitz 7 (Kucherov, Stralman); 1:26, 2, Tampa Bay, Hedman 7 (Stamkos, Kucherov); 5:52.

Second Period—3, Tampa Bay, Goudreau 18 (Sergachev, Peca); 15:47.

Third Period—4, Vancouver, Vanek 19 (Boeser, Stecher); 10:00, 5, Vancouver, Boeser 25 (Sutter); 14:30, 6, Tampa Bay, Conacher 6, 16:36 (pp).

First Period—1, Los Angeles, Kessel 1 (Kemppe, Toftoli), 7:14.

Second Period—2, Los Angeles, Lewis 13 (Mitchell, Muzzin), 2:37 (Sh), 3, Los Angeles, Kempe 15 (Brown), 5:12, 4, Los Angeles, Muzzin 6 (Kopitar, Dougherty), 18:46 (pp).

Third Period—5, Los Angeles, Kopitar 20 (Iaffalo, Gravel), 6:22, 6, Tampa Bay, Brown 16 (Ladue, Muzzin), 16:45.

Shots on Goal—Arizona 9-10-8-27.

Goals—Los Angeles 15-8-3-33.

Power-play opportunities—Arizona 0 of 2; Los Angeles 1 of 2.

Goals—Arizona, Wedgewood 4-9-4 (35 shots-29 saves). Los Angeles, Kuemper 8-1-3 (27-27).

A-18:230 (18:230), T-2:34.

Lightning 4, Canucks 2

(Hoffman White), 10:53, 2, Ottawa, Brassard 13 (Dzingel, Ceci), 11:32.

Second Period—3, Philadelphia, Courturier 27 (Konecny, Gudas), 3:53, 4, Ottawa, DiDomenico 4 (Dzingel), 13:02.

Third Period—5, Philadelphia, Laughon 8 (Manning, Konecny), 14:15, 6, Philadelphia, Patrick 5 (Gostisbehere, Konecny), 19:57.

Shootout—Ottawa 1 (Duchene NG, Karlsson NG, Pyatt NG, DiDomenico NG, Brassard NG, Hoffman G), Philadelphia 1 (Weal NG, Patrick NG, Voracek NG, Giroux NG, Simmonds NG, Gostisbehere NG).

Shots on Goal—Ottawa 10-13-3-3-29 Philadelphia 8-12-16-3-36.

First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Kunitz 8 (Kane, Kunitz), 10:53, 2, Tampa Bay, Hedman 7 (Stamkos, Kucherov), 5:52.

Second Period—3, Tampa Bay, Gourde 18 (Bourque, Kucherov), 10:17.

Third Period—4, Vancouver, Vaneck 15 (Boeser, Sutter), 14:30, 6, Tampa Bay, Conacher 6, 16:36 (pp).

Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh 10-15-6-31.

Power-play opportunities—Tampa Bay 1 of 4; Vancouver 0 of 3.

Goals—Tampa Bay, Vasylyevsky 31-9-2 (33 shots-31 saves). Vancouver, Markstrom 15-7 (28-24).

A-18:230 (18:230), T-2:34.

Senators 4, Flyers 3 (SO)

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Ottawa	32	16	13	5	75	187	134
Los Angeles	50	31	11	6	70	264	121
Florida	30	19	8	6	60	161	121
Carolina	50	22	22	6	60	143	161
Detroit	51	21	22	6	50	134	153
Norfolk	52	22	25	6	48	135	163
Ottawa	50	17	24	9	43	137	171
Buffalo	52	12	29	29	37	117	172

First Period—1, Ottawa, Duchene 12 (Hoffman, White), 10:53, 2, Ottawa, Brassard 13 (Dingell, Gelpi), 11:32.

Second Period—3, Philadelphia, Couturier 27 (Konceny, Duchene), 3:53, 4, Ottawa, Brassard 13 (Dingell, Gelpi), 11:32.

Third Period—5, Philadelphia, LaPhila 18 (Manning, Konceny), 14:15, 6, Philadelphia, Patrick 5 (Gostisbehere, Konceny), 19:57.

Shootout—Ottawa 1 (Duchene), Karlsson 9, Pyatt 10, DiDomenico 10, Brassard 9, Hoffman 6, Gelpi 6, LaPhila 0 (Wagner, Patrick, Morace, Gelpi, Gelpi, Gelpi, Simmons, Gostisbehere), 9.

Shots on Goal—Ottawa 10-13-3-3-29.

Power-play opportunities—Ottawa 0 of 2; Philadelphia 0 of 3.

Goals—Ottawa, Anderson 13-17-5 (36 shots-25 saves). Philadelphia, Lyon 10-10-2-20, Newirth 5-7-2 (6-6).

A-19:729 (19:729), T-2:49.

Jets 3, Avalanche 0

Colorado	0	0	0-0
Winnipeg	1	0	2-3
First Period —1, Winnipeg, Laine 24 (Wheeler, Byfuglien); 2:27 (pp).			
Second Period —None.			
Third Period —2, Winnipeg, Roslovich 2 (Wheeler, Chiariot), 5:17, 3, Winnipeg, Ehlers 20 (Perreault), 19:42.			
Shots on Goal —Colorado 10-4-11—25; Winnipeg 6-13-13—32.			
Power-play opportunities —Colorado 0 of 1; Winnipeg 1 of 2.			
Goalies —Colorado, Varlamov 13-10-2 (31 shots-29 saves). Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 27-6-8 (25-25).			
A —15,321 (15,294). T —2:25.			

NFL



The Texans' J.J. Watt poses with the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year award on Saturday in Minneapolis.

Watt chosen Man of Year

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Houston Texans star defensive end J.J. Watt won the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year Award on Saturday night.

The award recognizes a player's contribution in his community and to society in general. It was given out at NFL Honors, when The Associated Press announced its individual NFL awards.

Tight ends Benjamin Watson of the Baltimore Ravens and Greg Olsen of the Carolina Panthers also were finalists.

Watt, in his seventh NFL season and a three-time Defensive Player of the Year, had a goal of raising \$200,000 for Hurricane Harvey relief in Houston. His fundraising did a whole lot more, bringing in an incredible \$37 million in 19 days.

Watt has dedicated himself to finding organizations that will apply the funds in a fair and effective manner.

"I cannot express how humbled and honored that I am to be mentioned in the same sentence as Walter Payton, a man who did everything right not only on the field but off of it," Watt said in his acceptance speech. "And I'm going to continue to try to live that legacy and make that family proud."

"This award is called The Man of the Year Award, but I promise you it is so much bigger than that. This award is about the inherent good that lies within humanity. It is about the city of Houston and its ability to overcome adversity at a time when it all seemed lost. It is about the hundreds of thousands of people from all over the country and all over the world that donated to a city they may never have been to, to people they may never meet. But they donated simply because they saw their fellow human going through a difficult time and they wanted to help out."

Peyton Manning presented the award. "Whether we realize it or not, we are affecting everyone around us with our every move," Watt added. "The more that we can shine a light on the positivity and the good that we are in this world, the better off we're going to be. We all have to go through this crazy journey together, so why not help each other out and make it as great of a journey as possible."

"I'm incredibly grateful. I'm incredibly thankful to receive this award and I will cherish it for the rest of my life. The only thing that I ask of you is to join me in trying to carry on the legacy that Walter Payton left behind of leaving this world better than we found it. Take a moment, ask yourself, how can I make a difference? No matter how big, no matter how small, how can I make a difference? And when you have your answer, go out and do it."

Brady MVP; 3 Rams win awards

McVay, Gurley, Donald earn honors for LA; Saints rookies sweep

By BARRY WILNER

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — For the third time, Tom Brady is the NFL's Most Valuable Player.

Now he goes for his sixth Super Bowl title, and perhaps with it a fifth MVP trophy for the NFL championship.

Brady added The Associated Press 2017 NFL MVP award Saturday night at NFL Honors to his wins in 2007 and 2010. The New England Patriots quarterback was joined as an honoree by three Los Angeles Rams: Coach of the Year Sean McVay, Offensive Player of the Year running back Todd Gurley and Defensive Player of the Year tackle Aaron Donald.

Other winners in voting by a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the league were Los Angeles Chargers receiver Keenan Allen as Comeback Player; New Orleans running back Alvin Kamara and cornerback Marshon Lattimore as top offensive and defensive rookies, respectively; and former Minnesota Vikings offensive coordinator Pat Shurmur, now head coach of the New York Giants, as Assistant Coach of the Year.

Brady is the second player in the four major professional sports to win MVP at age 40; Barry Bonds won baseball's award in 2004.

Wide receiver Julian Edelman, who missed the entire season with a knee injury, accepted for Brady.

Brady completed 385 of 581 passes (66.2 percent) for 4,577 yards and 32 touchdowns with eight interceptions as New England went 13-3 for the AFC's best record. At an age when many QBs are deep into retirement, Brady is throwing deep — and short — as well as ever.

Donald was the first pure defensive tackle to win the award since Warren Sapp in 1999. He said it means "everything. That's one of the best to ever do it. So, even for my name to be next to that guy's name is beyond a blessing. This is what you dream about as a kid, dreaming about playing in the NFL to have success like this, to be able to [play good enough] to win this trophy."

Gurley's sensational turnaround season, in which he ran for 13 touchdowns and caught six TD passes, sparked an equally impressive reversal of fortunes by his team, which won the NFC West at 11-5.

"The Saints got the rookies and we took home the offensive and defensive" player awards," Gurley noted. "It just tells you the types of players we have on the team. We all help each other out, absolutely. We have some talent, but we're nothing without the whole nine yards and everybody together. And we also have a coach who's up for Coach of the Year."

A little while later, McVay was handed the coaching award.

In his first season running a team and as the youngest head coach in NFL history, McVay led the Rams to a seven-game improvement. McVay, who turned 32 on Jan. 24, ran away with the voting with 35 votes to 11 for Minnesota's Mike Zimmer.

"What it means is we had a good season that I think we can build on," McVay said. "But you have to earn it every single day. It's a very humbling legacy."

The Rams' hat trick of awards was not unprecedented. In 2003, Baltimore's Ray Lewis was top defensive player, Jamal Lewis won best offensive player and Ter-



Peter Barreras, NFL and Mark Humphrey/AP

Top: In this photo provided by the NFL, Marshon Lattimore, left, and Alvin Kamara, of the New Orleans Saints celebrate after being named top defensive and offensive rookies of the year. Left: Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was voted MVP at age 40.



back honor. Allen missed half of the 2015 season with a kidney issue, then was lost in the 2016 season opener with a torn right ACL. There were questions if Allen would ever play at a high level again.

He answered those emphatically this season with the best year of his career. Allen caught 102 passes for 1,393 yards and six touchdowns. He was targeted 159 times, nearly 10 per game.

The awards were announced Saturday night at NFL Honors, when Houston Texans defensive end J.J. Watt received the league's Walter Payton Award as man of the year. Watt helped raise an incredible \$37 million in 19 days for Hurricane Harvey relief.

"I've been fortunate to be on this stage and to win Defensive Player of the Year awards, but everything that you do on the field pales in comparison to what you do off the field," Watt said. "And at the end of my life, if I'm remembered as a football player and a good football player and that's all I'm remembered for, then I did a poor job in my life. When I go to my grave I want to be remembered as a guy who helped people out and who tried to do as much as he could off the field to be the best man he could be. I'm trying to make my family proud and my fans proud, and go out there and just be the best person I can be and leave the world a little bit better."

rell Suggs was Defensive Rookie of the Year. And in 1999, the St. Louis Rams had three award winners: Kurt Warner (MVP), Marshall Faulk (Offensive Player) and Dick Vermeil (Coach).

New Orleans' sweep of the rookie awards was the first since 1967, when Detroit running back Mel Farr and cornerback Lem Barney were honored. That was the first season for the top defensive rookie award.

"You get caught up in the season, you don't really get time to pat yourself on the back," Kamara said. "But when the season is over you realize what you've done. I've kind of had to time to look back and say, I made some history this season."

Kamara shared duties with veteran Mark Ingram as the Saints won the NFC South. He rushed for 728 yards with a 6.1-yard average, and scored eight times. He also caught 81 passes for 826 yards, with five touchdowns.

The 11th overall draft pick and first corner taken,

Lat-timore was a shutdown defender as the Saints went 11-5. He had five interceptions and 18 passes defended in 13 games, was a sure tackler and, by midseason, was someone opposing quarterbacks tended to avoid. He missed three games, one because of a concussion and two with an ankle injury.

Allen returned from two devastating injuries to win the come-



Rams defensive tackle Aaron Donald was chosen defensive Player of the Year.

KELVIN MAZUR/AP

HALL OF FAME

Names: Hard-hitting safety Dawkins among 2018 inductees

FROM BACK PAGE

Safety Brian Dawkins also received at least 80 percent support from the 47 Hall of Fame voters, along with contributor Bobby Beathard and senior nominees Jerry Kramer and Robert Brazile.

But the biggest stars of the class are the two linebackers that made it on their first tries, and the pair of lightning-rod receiver who sometimes caused as many problems for their own teams as for the opposition. Moss also made it on his first try, while Owens needed to wait for his third year on the ballot to get enough support.

"I've been going a long time. And now I can finally rest," Lewis said. "I want to go fishing with a cigar now and just sit back. I don't want to work out every day now."

Moss and Owens each played for five teams in their careers as they often wore out their welcome with their inability to get along with teammates and coaches at times.



Beathard

But at their best, there were few players ever able to strike fear in defenses as much as Moss and Owens, who were both all-decade selections for the 2000s.

"The door knocked and I started getting excited," Moss said of Hall of Fame President David Baker alerting him he has been elected. "All the emotions caught the best of me because it's been a long journey and it ends in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Tears of joy."

Moss burst on the scene as a rookie in Minnesota in 1998 when he caught a league-leading 17 TD catches and helped lead the Vikings to the NFC title game. His combination of speed and athleticism made him the game's most dangerous big-play threat and led to the phrase "You got Mossed" for embarrassed defensive backs.

He led the NFL in TD catches five times, including his record 23 for New England in 2007, and earned four All-Pro selections. He finished his career with 982 catches for 15,292 yards and ranks second all-time with 156 TD receptions.

Owens, who didn't attend the announcement, entered the league as a third-round pick by San Francisco in 1996 but developed into a star known for some memorable playoff appearances, including his winning 25-yard TD catch to beat Green Bay in 1999, his 177 yards in a comeback win against the Giants in 2003; and his nine catches for 122 yards in the 2004 Super Bowl against New England just seven weeks after breaking his leg.

Owens ranks second to Jerry Rice with 15,934 yards receiving and is third on the all-time touchdowns receiving list with 153.

Lewis was widely considered one



AJ MAST, INVISION FOR NFL/AP

Pictured, from left, are former NFL players Robert Brazile, Brian Dawkins, Jerry Kramer, Ray Lewis, Randy Moss, and Brian Urlacher, the 2018 Pro Football Hall of Fame class, at the 7th Annual NFL Honors on Saturday, in Minneapolis.



JERRY LODRIGUSS, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/TNS

Hall of Fame inductee Brian Dawkins spent most of his 16-year career with the Philadelphia Eagles, earning five first-team All-Pro selections. He retired with 37 interceptions and 26 sacks.

of the greatest middle linebackers, winning two AP Defensive Player of the Year awards and earning eight All-Pro selections. He anchored a dominant defense for the 2000 Baltimore Ravens in a season that ended with him winning Super Bowl MVP, then retired as a champion after Baltimore closed his last season with a title win over San Francisco in February 2013.

"Growing up as a child, I know what that looked like, Mike Singletary, Dick Butkus," Lewis said. "Who dreams of being in that category, sitting with those guys?"

Lewis joined tackle Jonathan Ogden as the only Ravens voted into the Hall of Fame as both of the team's first-round picks in its initial season of 1996 received the high honor.

Lewis' career was also marked

by legal problems off the field. He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of obstruction of justice after initially being charged with murder in connection with two killings following a Super Bowl party in Atlanta in January 2000.

Lewis was also fined \$250,000 by the NFL.

Urlacher wasn't far behind Lewis with his play on the field and is the latest in a line of great Chicago middle linebackers to make the Hall, joining Butkus, Singletary and Bill George. He was the Defensive Player of the Year of 2005 and joined Lewis on the 2000s all-decade team.

Dawkins spent most of his 16-year career in Philadelphia, earning five first-team All-Pro selections for his versatility that included 37 career interceptions and 26 career sacks. He became the first player in NFL history with a sack, interception, fumble recovery and touchdown catch in the same game against Houston in 2002.

Kramer got passed over 10 times previously as a finalist before finally getting enough votes as a senior to become the 14th member of the Vince Lombardi Packers to make the Hall. Kramer helped anchor the Green Bay line for 11 seasons, winning six NFL

titles and making the block that cleared the way for Bart Starr's TD sneak in the "Ice Bowl" for the 1967 NFL championship.

Brazile was a finalist for the first time after a 10-year career for the Houston Oilers that included five straight All-Pro selections.

Beathard, also not on hand Saturday, helped build four Super Bowl champions in Miami and Washington and made seven trips to the title game during more than three decades as a personnel executive with a sharp eye for talent.

Five offensive linemen were among the 15 finalists, with tackle Joe Jacoby getting eliminated in voting that reduced the candidates to 10, and tackle Tony Boselli, guards Alan Faneca and Steve Hutchinson, and center Kevin Mawae getting cut in the next round of voting.

Cornback Ty Law also made it to the final 10 in his second time on the ballot. Defensive backs John Lynch and Everson Walls, receiver Isaac Bruce and running back Edgerrin James were the other candidates eliminated in the first cuts.

"I'm glad I didn't have to vote for this class," Urlacher said. "It's a great class."

'It's been a long journey and it ends in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Tears of joy.'

Randy Moss

2018 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee

SPORTS



Year-end awards:

■ Pats' Brady League MVP;
Rams' DT Donald Defensive
Player of the Year, Page 30

Former Baltimore
Ravens linebacker
Ray Lewis

AP photo

HALL OF FAME



Owens



Urlacher



Moss

BIG NAMES

Lewis, Owens, Urlacher, Moss
highlight eight-person class

By JOSH DUBOW
Associated Press

R MINNEAPOLIS
ay Lewis and Brian Urlacher
terrorized opposing offenses
from the middle of the field.
Randy Moss and Terrell

Owens did the same to defenses on the
outside.

The two hard-hitting linebackers and
two big-play receivers highlighted an
eight-person class voted into the Pro
Football Hall of Fame on Saturday.
SEE NAMES ON PAGE 31

**‘Growing up as a child, I know what that looked like,
Mike Singletary, Dick Butkus... Who dreams of being
in that category, sitting with those guys?’**

Ray Lewis

Former Baltimore Ravens linebacker and 2018 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee

No. 4 Duke stunned by St. John's » College basketball, Page 25

